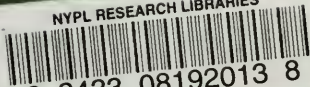


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LUCIAN M. KILBURN

HISTORY  
OF  
ADAIR COUNTY  
IOWA

AND ITS PEOPLE

LUCIAN M. KILBURN

SUPERVISING EDITOR

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME I

CHICAGO  
THE PIONEER PUBLISHING COMPANY  
1915



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## A PREFATORY REMARK

To the patrons and readers of this history we desire to explain our connection with its production.

The manuscript of the general history was prepared by Mr. Gordon K. Miller, a man of much experience in similar work in other places, and its promotion and publication was undertaken by the Pioneer Publishing Company of Chicago, which has been in the business of publishing histories for many years.

We were asked by the advance agent to verify and supervise the manuscript of the history in the light of our experience of nearly fifty years' continuous residence in Adair County and the years in which most of its development has taken place. We have endeavored conscientiously to perform the task and to assist in securing facts which are creditable to the present generation and which should be recorded for the benefit of generations yet to come. The biographical volume should be especially interesting in years to come to the descendants of those who have made history in these earlier times. The teachings of the fathers and pride in their achievements have been mighty factors in the world's advancement. The pioneers who builded states were not the products of chance, but came from strong and vigorous ancestry whose history their descendants should be proud to record and perpetuate.

That much has been omitted which should have been preserved is probable, that some statements have not been sufficiently extended is likely, and that some generally accepted facts may not accord with individual experience and preconceived notions is possible; but the men who have prepared the work have done the best they could with the means of knowledge at their command.

History is not like mathematics, an exact science. Witnesses in court who see the same things rarely see them from the same angle or testify alike as to the exact facts. Much of history is tradition; tales passing from mouth to mouth, from sire to son, from generation to generation, and the truth never gains in the transmission of these tales. We accept as facts a great deal of history which doubtless



never occurred; much that in the light of the larger experience of our time we know cannot be true, but we take it with allowance and glean from it what we can.

The public and written records are reliable as far as they go, but are often defective or incomplete. The recollection of actors in past events are of value as history, but their credibility must be taken with regard to the accuracy of their observation and memory, the soundness of their judgment and their reliability to relate the facts unbiased by preconceived notions of personal interest.

From all available sources the historians have sought to gather the facts for this work. The development of Adair County covers less than three-fourths of a century; most of it has been accomplished in the last fifty years. Fifty years ago there were four postoffices in the county, served with a triweekly mail carried by stage coach from Des Moines to Council Bluffs. Now the mail is delivered daily in proximity to every farmhouse. Then there were only one or two buggies in the county; now they are numbered by the thousands, not counting the vast number of automobiles which have become the property of Adair County residents. Twenty-five years ago there was not a telephone in the county, except two or three toll stations on a new line just built; now nearly every farmhouse in the county is connected with all the world. This wonderful progress almost equals the imagination of the "Arabian Nights."

But in the brief space of time which history covers, the early settlers who have made history have nearly all gone. Many of the pioneers moved on to newer scenes when population, as they felt, began to crowd them. They were not content to be other than pioneers. The most of the first generation of settlers on the wild prairie are dead. They were too busy making a living to leave much record of their doings in the early times, and so the historian has to gather as he can the materials for this work; and however incomplete his record of the development may be, it will prove of value to generations yet to come. We hope it will prove on completion all that its projectors have promised and that its subscribers will appreciate the work that has been accomplished. All our judgment of our fellow-men and of their work may follow the old adage: "Be to their faults a little blind: Be to their virtues very kind."

LUCIAN MOODY KILBURN,  
Supervising Editor.

Greenfield, Ia., May 5, 1915.

## INTRODUCTION

The history of Adair County as United States territory reaches back to that eventful day in May, 1803, when the treaty was signed by which France ceded the vast territory included in the Louisiana Purchase to our Federal Government. The hand of Providence seems plainly manifest in the course of events which led to its acquisition. It is said that the American envoys who conducted the negotiations on behalf of the United States "spent no small part of their time explaining that they only wished a little bit of Louisiana, including New Orleans and the east bank of the Mississippi." Livingston indeed went so far as to express a very positive disinclination to take the territory west of the Mississippi at any price, stating that he should much prefer to see it remain in the hands of France or Spain, and suggesting by way of an apology for its acquisition that it might be resold to some European power. Madison, who was at the head of the State Department at that time, "felt a strong disinclination to see the national domain extend west of the Mississippi, and he so instructed Monroe and Livingston," who were in charge of the matter on our part. But Napoleon, harassed on every hand by the great powers of Europe and fearful that the territory might fall into the hands of the English, rapidly abated his demands from the exorbitant sum first asked, finally offering to take \$15,000,000 and forced Livingston and Monroe to become reluctant purchasers, not merely of New Orleans, but of all the immense territory stretching vaguely northwestward to the Pacific. Another strange thing about the matter is that Jefferson, in whose administration the purchase was made, "had led his party into power as special champion of states' rights and the special opponent of national sovereignty. He and they rendered a very great service to the nation by acquiring Louisiana; but it was at the cost of violating every precept which they had professed to hold dear. Thus came into the possession of the United States a territory of vast and very ill-defined extent. Congress authorized a temporary government for the newly acquired province

on October 31, 1803, but its jurisdiction was merely nominal, as the French governor retained his power at the request and by the authority of the United States. By further action of Congress the whole of the province north of the thirty-third parallel was organized into a court district and formed for governmental and judicial purposes a part of the Territory of Indiana. This action was had March 26, 1804, and affected what are now the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Iowa; also Southern Minnesota. It was called Upper Louisiana, and in this way the name District of Louisiana originated, by which it was known during the early history of the country.

On March 3, 1805, Iowa was included as a part of the Territory of Louisiana, with the capital at St. Louis, and that part of the Louisiana Purchase now known as Louisiana became Orleans Territory. The Territory of Missouri was organized June 4, 1812, and Iowa was embraced in it. When Missouri became a state in 1820, Iowa, with other territory, was detached and forgotten and "remained a country without a government, either political or judicial, until June 28, 1834, when the abuses of outlawry and crime became so prominent and serious that, as a means of redress and correction, it was included in the Territory of Michigan. During all these years it is probable that the only civil law in force in Iowa was the provision of the Missouri act which prohibited slavery and involuntary servitude in the territories of the United States north of thirty-six degrees, thirty minutes, north latitude."

By 1836 the population of this region had so increased that the territorial government of Wisconsin was organized, which at first included a part of the upper peninsula of Michigan, the whole of Minnesota and Iowa, and that part of Dakota lying east of the Missouri and White Earth rivers. When the Territory of Iowa was organized, July 12, 1838, it included the present State of Minnesota and parts of North and South Dakota.

By an act of Congress, approved March 3, 1845, provision was made for the admission of Iowa into the Union as a sovereign state, with boundaries extending on the north the parallel of latitude passing through the mouth of the Blue Earth River and on the west only to seventeen degrees, thirty minutes, from Washington, corresponding very nearly to the existing lines between Ringgold and Union counties on the one hand and Taylor and Adams counties on the other. This reduction of the boundaries laid down by the constitutional convention of 1844 was very distasteful to the people, and the admission was rejected by a popular election, and in 1846 Congress

proposed new boundary lines, having the State of Minnesota for the north boundary, Missouri for the south, the Mississippi River on the east and the Missouri and Sioux rivers on the west. The date of admission to the Union was December 28, 1846.

Comparatively few of the counties as at present established had been organized previous to the convening of the First Territorial Assembly. The three southern tiers of counties in Iowa at present were carved from the original County of Des Moines. Des Moines was the second county in Iowa to be established, Dubuque having been the first. The limits of the County of Des Moines were defined in section 2 of an act to lay off and organize counties west of the Mississippi River. In the definition of the boundaries of Des Moines County an error was made in that the county was not limited, in so many words, to territory to which the Indian title had been extinguished. The intention of the framers of the act was to erect the southern part of the Black Hawk Purchase into Des Moines County, but by the omission of a phrase the county was apparently extended westward to the Missouri River. The territory enacted into new counties was only the southern part of the Black Hawk Purchase. It did not extend westward to the Missouri River.



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# History of Adair County

## CHAPTER I

### FIRST INHABITANTS OF ADAIR COUNTY

#### FOREWORD

Pioneer history is in many respects an elusive subject. Records of the days when the settlers hewed their homes from the unbroken wilderness have not been adequately preserved and consequently the sources of information which have survived are treasures which must be kept and immortalized by the present generation and the ones to come, lest the tales of the hardships and sturdy deeds performed be lost to view forever. Such is the purpose of history. Pioneer history, as well as any other, grows with the telling. There is glamour and interest centering around the hard-fought battles of the early days which will bear the retelling many times over. What if bits of imagination are introduced in the retelling? Any life is prosaic in the stern reality—and narrative beauty is added by the coloration of the bare facts; but, of course, strict adherence to these same facts is the prime requisite.

In the beginning of Iowa history, and also that of Adair County, settlements were miles apart and social intercourse was difficult. Log-rollings, husking-bees, barbecues, cabin-buildings and other entertainments significant to the pioneers supplied the only opportunities for the people to congregate together and these periods were often months apart. So the pioneer lived alone with his family in the silent and mighty forest and on the monotonous level of the prairie, sallying out before dawn to shoot the game for the day's food and to cast a line in the nearby stream. The clothes were manufactured by the good housewife, who sat for days before the loom and spinning wheel, patiently working; linsey-woolsey and homespun, adorned with the skins of wild animals, were the popular fabrics.

An extreme hardness of body and soul resulted from this life; men were cast in steel. Writers of today lament the deterioration of the twentieth century civilization, praying for the spirit of the pioneer days. This may be true, but the effect of money and luxuries are too familiar to merit discussion in a work such as this volume. It is to the first men of the county and their influence in building up the community and to the men of the present generation who are stolidly retaining this standard that this work must be dedicated.

Every authority will agree with the statement that the sole motive of early settlement in any land or locality is an economic one. It is when living conditions become difficult in larger settlements, when competition becomes strong, and when the desire for larger space becomes uppermost, that an exodus to a new land occurs. So it was in the early settlement of Adair County. The emigrants came here with the purpose of building new homes, raising crops and opening up a new country for their children's happiness. They were but following the law of existence and the survival of the fittest.

#### FIRST SETTLERS

The identity of the first settler in Adair County has been disputed for many years, even since the first settlements were made. It is impossible to state exactly who made the first home in this county.

Thomas Johnson, a native of Indiana, came from Page County, Ia., in the spring of 1849 and settled on section 4 in Washington Township. He had gone to Page County as early as 1841. He constructed a log cabin, probably the first in the county, and cleared a small patch of ground in order to raise sufficient grain and vegetables to supply himself and small family. His trips to mill were made over long distances, and he soon grew tired, so in 1850 built a small grist mill upon his farm and four years later added a sawmill. In 1853 a mail route was established through Washington Township on the road from Afton to Lewis, and the house of Thomas Johnson was made a postoffice, he acting as postmaster. There is no doubt but that he was the first gentleman in the county to act in this capacity. After living here for about twelve years Johnson removed to the State of Oregon, where he lived until his death.

It is a notable fact that the first school in Adair County was taught in Johnson's house in the winter of 1851-52 by Miss Dianthe Richardson.

In the month of April, 1850, James R. Campbell built a cabin on section 3 in what is now Washington Township, and on May 11th



of the same year he moved into the crude home with his family. He afterwards moved to section 33. Until he had closer trading points he bartered his goods at Savannah, the county seat of Andrews County, Mo., 120 miles from here, and he also took some of his goods to St. Joseph, Mo., even farther away from home. He had his grinding done at Cox's mills, on River One Hundred and Two, so called, it was said, because it was the one hundred and second stream crossed from the Mississippi when traveling westward. This mill was seventy-five miles from the Campbell home.

James R. Campbell was born in Bourbon County, Ky., on March 28, 1822, and was the son of James and Polly (Lock) Campbell, natives of Kentucky. He remained in the Blue Grass State until he was seventeen years of age, then went to Lawrence County, Ind., and thence in one year to Putnam County, where he stayed until 1841, when he settled in Page County, Ia. He was married on March 14, 1850, to Susanna Johnson, of Lawrence County, Ind., and to this felicitous union there were born four children: Emily, Horant, James H. and Robert.

In the autumn of 1849 William (Uncle Billy) McDonald came to this county from Missouri. His first trip was to search for a comfortable site for a home, which he evidently discovered, for in the following spring he moved here and settled upon section 26 in Harrison Township. He was a native of Pike County, Ohio, and was born April 20, 1809, the son of Charles and Nancy (Tubbs) McDonald. His first removal was to Peoria, Ill., and that place not proving a satisfactory location, he returned to Ohio, but again went to Illinois and made a trial of Sangamon County. From there he went to Missouri and, as above stated, came to Adair County in 1849.

After the organization of the county McDonald was chosen as the first recorder and was also one of the first trustees of his home township. For a time he served as a school director. Mr. McDonald was married three times. On April 2, 1829, he was wedded to Maria Kirkendall, a daughter of George and Mary Kirkendall; no children were born of this union. On November 5, 1836, he was married to Mary Dixon, daughter of John Dixon; two children, Emily and Elizabeth, were born. In 1869 he was married to Letitia McAferty.

In the spring of 1850 William Alcorn made a claim on section 27 in Jefferson Township and constructed a cabin home. He lived here until 1852, when he sold his property to John Febus, and took up another claim on section 33. In 1854 he left the county.



With Alcorn came John Gilson and he made a settlement in the same township. He was chosen as the first county clerk in Adair.

Daniel Vancil came to Adair County about the same time and settled in Jefferson Township. He made no legal claim, but was reputed to be a claim-jumper. Not finding himself in good standing in this community, he left in 1853 and returned to his native state of Illinois, where he was afterward lynched.

Among the first settlers of Jefferson Township was George M. Holaday, who made a settlement on section 26 in 1853. Here he built his cabin and resided for a time. Upon the organization of the county he succeeded in obtaining the office of county judge and served the full time with little credit to himself or the community. At the expiration of his term he left the county.

Azariah Root, afterward county judge, was one of the early settlers of the county, together with his son, Abner. In 1853 he made a settlement upon section 11, in Jackson Township, where he resided for some time; then he removed to section 12, and later to the Village of Fontanelle.

Charles Wilson, in the spring of 1853, made the first settlement in what is now Union Township, on section 12, where he resided for many years.

Christian Gerkin, a native of Germany, made a settlement on section 2 in Union Township in the latter part of July, 1853. He came here directly from the Vaterland.

Charles Wilson, a native of England, was born in 1816, the son of Robert and Sarah Wilson. He resided in his native land until eighteen years of age, when he came to America, first settling in Rochester, N. Y., and a year later he moved to Allegany County. He then moved to Genesee County, Ind., and then to Lake County. He remained there until the fall of 1852, when he came to Iowa, spending the winter in Mahaska County on the Des Moines River. In the spring following he brought his family to Madison County and began work on a claim, his family occupying a tent. He came to Adair County soon afterward and began the cultivation of his farm. He was obliged to travel ninety miles to a mill. There were but few houses between his home and the Town of Winterset. He was married in October, 1838, to Sarah Brough, a native of England. Eight children were born to them, namely: Thomas K., George, William, Lewis K., John, Mary, Lizzie and Harriott. He held at different times the offices of township assessor and justice of the peace.

John Cears, one of the best known of the early settlers of the county, came here in the year 1854 and took up a claim on section 3, in Jackson Township. He was born in Switzerland on October 18, 1820, and in 1823 the family moved to America, locating in Alleghany, where they remained until 1832, when his father died, and then his mother and the children went to Monroe County, Ohio, and there remained until 1850, when he came to Platt County, Mo., and one year later he came to Des Moines County, Ia., and there remained until 1853. He then came to Dallas County, Ia., and after several months came to this county. For a long time after his coming his house served as a stage station. He was married in January, 1844, to Phoebe Tucker, and again in March, 1858, to Miss P. J. Perry. To this last union there were born the following children: William P., Joseph H., Martha C., George B., Jennie I., Frank E., Thomas J. and Albert W. There were also several children born to Mr. Cears' first wife.

John Febus made a settlement in Jefferson Township in 1853, where he remained until the fall of 1855, when he removed to Winterset.

John Gilman came here in 1853 and made a settlement on section 5 in what is now Richland Township. With him came Harvey Fortner, who shortly afterwards left the county.

Jefferson Township received another settler in the year 1853 in the person of Jacob Bruce, who located upon section 33. He was born on October 27, 1825, in Union County, Pa., and in 1835 moved with his parents to Sandusky County, Ohio, and there remained until the fall of the same year, when he went to Fulton County, Ind., where he was married in October, 1850, to Catherine Hoch, a daughter of Samuel and Rebecca (Kline) Hoch. Jacob Bruce served in the war with Mexico, having charge of a train of twenty-five teams and participating in several skirmishes. During his life in Adair County he served several times in official capacities.

Titus, Elijah, John and Jahu Sullivan located upon section 16, Washington Township, in the fall of 1853, where the two first named took up claims and the latter worked for them. In 1856 J. B. removed to Jackson Township. Jahu Sullivan, a native of Monroe County, Ind., was born on November 11, 1836, the son of Henry S. and Sarah Sullivan. His wife was Margaret J. Roberts, also a native of Indiana.

Alfred Jones, Sr., settled upon a portion of section 12 in Jackson Township on June 3, 1852. He was a native of North Carolina. He made his home here until his death in 1881.

Willis Lyons also settled in Jackson Township.

#### FIRST EVENTS

The first white child born in what now comprises Adair County was Margaret, the daughter of Thomas and Rosa Johnson, the pioneers of the county, in May, 1850. She later lived in the State of California.

The first death in the county was that of John Gilson's child, name unknown, in the fall of 1850.

The first marriage was that of Joshua E. Chapman and Dianthe Richardson, in 1853. These people were married in Tremont County, but were residents of Adair County at the time of their nuptials.

The first marriage within the bounds of Adair County was that of William Stinson and Elizabeth Fredonia Crow on May 7, 1854. Judge George M. Holaday performed the ceremony.

The first school in the county, as before mentioned, was taught at the house of Thomas Johnson.

The first mill in the county was the small grist mill erected by Thomas Johnson on his farm.

## CHAPTER II

# ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT OF ADAIR COUNTY

### CREATION OF COUNTY

At one time Adair County was a portion of the large County of Des Moines, also the northern tier of townships was a part of Keokuk County from December 31, 1837, until July 30, 1840. Adair County, as it now exists, was created by an act of the Third General Assembly, approved January 15, 1851. The name of the county was given in honor of Gen. John Adair, a distinguished officer during the War of 1812 and the sixth governor of Kentucky. By chapter 8, acts of the Fourth General Assembly, the county was made a township of Cass County for election and judicial purposes, but shortly afterward Adair was fully organized within itself. The first election was held at the house of Alfred Jones.

During the first years of the county's existence the control of the governmental affairs was placed in the hands of a County Court, instead of the board of supervisors, as is now in vogue. The County Court consisted of a judge, a prosecuting attorney and a sheriff; the heaviest work fell upon the shoulders of the judge. He had supreme jurisdiction in all matters which could not properly be brought before the District Court. The other members of the triumvirate were simply assistants to the all-important judge.

### FIRST MEETING OF COUNTY COURT

The first regular meeting of the Adair County Court was held on May 6, 1854, at the house of Judge George M. Holaday. The only business transacted by the court at this meeting was the issuance of a marriage license to William Stinson and Elizabeth Crow.

At the July term of the court it was ordered that "the County of Adair be divided into two election precincts, the center line running

north and south to be the dividing line, the east half to be known as Harrison Precinct and the west half as Washington Precinct. Ordered, also, that Alfred Jones, Thomas N. Johnson and Nathan Wooart be appointed township trustees of Washington Precinct."

At the September term of the court the first levy of taxes in the county was made, the same at the following rates: For state revenue, 3 mills on the dollar; county fund, 6 mills; school fund,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mill; road tax, 1 mill and \$1 poll; county poll tax, 50 cents.

#### LOCATION OF COUNTY SEAT

At the time of the organization of the county Elias Stafford and George B. Hitchcock were appointed as commissioners to locate the county seat. They were appointed by the General Assembly of Iowa. On May 1, 1855, these commissioners returned the following report to the county judge:

"State of Iowa,

County of Adair—ss.

"In pursuance of an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, approved January 15, 1855, for the location of the seat of justice of the aforesaid County of Adair; We, G. B. Hitchcock and Elias Stafford, two of the commissioners appointed by the aforesaid act to locate the seat of justice of said county, have met at Adair Postoffice, on the 24th of April, 1855, and proceeded to locate the seat of justice of said County of Adair, on the southwest quarter of section 17, in township 75 north, range 32 west, as above directed by the aforesaid act. We, the said commissioners, have been duly sworn as above directed. This done in Adair County, this April 27, 1855. The name of the county seat above described shall be Summerset.

"ELIAS STAFFORD,

"GEORGE B. HITCHCOCK,

"Commissioners."

The town of Summerset is now known by the name of Fontanelle.

#### FURTHER COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS

The records of the court, of the first Monday in July, 1855, contain the following entry which may be of interest as showing the remuneration of some of the early county officers: "Ordered, that John Gibson, county clerk, be allowed in all for fifteen months' salary as clerk,



\$62.50. And that G. M. Holaday be allowed \$52.50 as his salary for fifteen months, from the 1st of April, 1854, to the 1st of July, 1855."

At the July term of the County Court a new township was set off, consisting of congressional townships 74 and 75, ranges 30 and 31, which was called Grand River. Robert Wilson, Charles Wilson and William Swears were appointed trustees of the same. Also, townships 76 and 77, ranges 31, 32 and 33, were set off and formed into a civil township under the name of Jefferson Township, and M. Hollingsworth, Samuel Miner and William Tingbe were appointed trustees thereof.

On August 1, 1855, J. J. Leeper became county judge. He ordered that the court be held at his house until the necessary county building at Summerset had been erected. At the session of the court held January 7, 1856, the following order was made: "Ordered, that there be a courthouse built in Summerset, Adair County, Ia.; and ordered further, that the said house be advertised to be sold to the lowest responsible bidder on the 10th day of February, 1856. The said house to be 26 feet wide, 36 feet long, 10 feet high, and to contain three rooms, all to be finished in good style." In accordance with this order the contract was let to James Ray, upon the above date; he to finish the courthouse and to have it ready for occupancy by October 1, 1856, for the sum of \$1,250.

At the March term of the court of this year congressional townships 74 and 75, of range 32 west, and township 75, range 33, were made a civil township under the name of Summerset.

The first petition for a road was presented to the court by Mr. Cutler in October, 1856. The judge appointed James Walker as a commissioner to view the same and report.

On the 25th of August, 1857, the court met, when Manning Drake, the newly elected county judge, handed in his resignation, which was accepted, and while D. M. Valentine, the prosecuting attorney, acted as judge, the office was declared vacant. Mr. Valentine held the position as acting judge until April 13, 1858, when a successor was sworn into office. This was F. M. Corr.

At the July term, 1859, the judge, on a petition to that effect, set off a township consisting of townships 74 and 75, range 31, which was to be known as Greenfield, and ordered that W. G. Bagg be appointed organizing officer.

During the administration of Judge Corr, on October 18, 1860, a petition was presented asking that township 76, range 32, be set off and made into a new civil township under the name of Grove;

which the court granted, and ordered that the first election therein be held at the general election in the following November.

It was not long after this that the County Court fell into disuse. With the coming of the year 1861 the board of supervisors transacted most of the business formerly the duty of the court, consequently the latter department rapidly fell into decline. Auditing and the paying of claims against the county and the granting of marriage licenses comprised most of the business during these last months of its existence.

#### THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The first regular session of the board of supervisors was held at Fontanelle, then the county seat, on January 7, 1861. There were present the following men, who were duly sworn into office: Mathew Clark, Greenfield Township; R. W. Champlin, Washington Township; Benjamin Minett, Richland Township; L. C. Elliott, Harrison Township; John Loucks, Jefferson Township; James Thompson, Walnut Township; Jacob Bruce, Grove Township; L. J. Wilson, Grand River Township; Azariah Root, Summerset Township.

The board proceeded to organize by electing Azariah Root chairman for the ensuing year and drew lots for the term of office for each member. Much of the business at the beginning seems to have been the straightening up of old matters. At their meeting upon the 4th of June, however, in answer to a petition to that effect, set off a new civil township which they called Lincoln Township. This comprised congressional township 77 north, range 30 west. Zimri Horner was by the same act made organizing officer and the election for the first offices was set for October 2, 1861, the house of Dominick Nunon.

The board of supervisors for the year 1862 was composed of the following: James C. Gibbs, Summerset; Azariah Root, Jackson; S. C. Vance, Greenfield; L. C. Elliott, Harrison; Jacob Bruce, Grove; John Loucks, Jefferson; A. J. Ross, Washington; Benjamin Minert, Richland; L. S. Wilson, Grand River; James Thompson, Walnut; Milton Mills, Lincoln. These parties met at the courthouse in Fontanelle on January 6th and elected James C. Gibbs as chairman. In October of the same year James C. Gibbs resigned his position as member of the board and Azariah Root, having removed from Jackson Township to Summerset, made a vacancy in the representation of the former subdivision of the county.

On January 5, 1863, the new board for the year assembled at Fontanelle and the following gentlemen were present: Benjamin



Minert, Richland; S. C. Vance, Greenfield; S. W. Armstrong, Summerset; Milton Mills, Lincoln; A. J. Ross, Washington; John Loucks, Jefferson; Jacob Bruce, Grove; Abner Root, Jackson; L. J. Wilson, Grand River; James Thompson, Walnut; Fielden Key, Harrison.

On organization Benjamin Minert was elected chairman for the year and the board proceeded to business. Jacob Bruce was appointed by the board as supervisor to fill the vacancy caused by there being no election in Grove Township. But little of any interest seems to have transpired at this term except the following action in relation to the support of the families of the volunteers: At the fall election of 1862 a special tax was voted by the people of the county for the above purpose and the board of supervisors at the January term appointed Messrs. Vance, Minert and Key a committee to attend to the distribution of the same. At the June term the board passed the following resolution:

Resolved, by the Board of Supervisors of Adair County, Ia., that resolution No. 13, appropriating the special tax voted for the families of volunteers, be so amended that the committee therein named shall not, in making said distribution, be confined or limited to families of volunteers who enlisted in Adair County, but that they shall act in good faith and relieve all families of volunteers residing or that may reside in the county to the extent of the funds provided, acting in their discretion in making the distribution.

At the October term of this same year a resolution was adopted giving to each patriot who enlisted in the service of the United States Government against the so-called Confederate States of America between the 14th of December, 1863, and the 4th of January, 1864, from Adair County, under the call for 300,000 men to fill up the old regiments now in the field, to fill the County of Adair's quota, under the same, the sum of \$100 as a bounty; said sum to be paid in county warrants on the treasurer of said county, when the said volunteers shall have been mustered into the United States service and rendezvous set. On the 4th of January, 1864, the new board of supervisors met at Fontanelle and the following mentioned, after due qualification of the new members, took their seats: S. C. Vance, Greenfield; Benjamin Minert, Richland; Jacob Bruce, Grove; John Loucks, Jefferson; A. J. Ross, Washington; John Augustine, Grand River; Milton Mills, Lincoln; S. W. Armstrong, Summerset; J. W. Stinman, Jackson; James Thompson, Walnut; Fielden Key, Harrison. Benjamin Minert was chosen chairman for the ensuing year. The

various committees coming forward to report, among them was the committee on relief to families of volunteers which filed the following account of receipts and expenditures:

Received from special tax of 1863.....	\$224.57
Received from road fund by transfer.....	200.00
Received from bridge fund by transfer.....	24.00
<hr/>	
Total .....	\$448.57
Amount expended to date.....	\$326.00
Amount on hand.....	122.59

The swamp lands of the county were at this time sold by the county to B. F. Allen of Des Moines for the sum of \$1,500, which was appropriated for the bounty of the soldiers. In October, 1864, the board passed a resolution to pay the same bounty of \$100 to each and every one who had volunteered in the service of the United States and who was credited to Adair County or to his heirs if he were dead, thus equalizing the bounty. At the same time a resolution was passed that instead of the relief to the families of volunteers being in the hands of a committee and irregular in its action, \$12 per quarter be allowed to the wife of the volunteer and \$6 per quarter to every child of the same under twelve years of age. Besides this, provision was made for any others who were dependent upon any volunteer, so that none might suffer in their absence.

The first meeting of the board of supervisors for the year of 1865 was at Fontanelle on January 2d, when the following men were present: Benjamin Minert, Richland; S. C. Vance, Greenfield; J. W. Stinman, Jackson; S. W. Armstrong, Summerset; Fielden Key, Harrison; Moses P. Stockwell, Walnut; Milton Mills, Lincoln; F. M. Corr, Washington; John Loucks, Jefferson; John Augustine, Grand River.

Grove Township had no representative on account of there being no poll book sent from that precinct. To fill the vacancy the board appointed James McMasters as supervisor from that township. Minert was chosen chairman for the year. In June S. W. Armstrong removed from the county, making thereby a vacancy in the board from Summerset and it was filled by the appointment of A. J. Ross.

It was upon the first of January, 1866, that the board of supervisors for that year assembled at Fontanelle, when the following

gentlemen took their seats: F. M. Corr, Washington; T. M. Ewing, Richland; J. W. Stinman, Jackson; A. P. Littleton, Greenfield; A. J. Ross, Summerset; M. P. Stockwell, Walnut; John Loucks, Jefferson; James McMasters, Grove; Fielden Key, Harrison; Jacob Bally, Grand River; and J. R. Short, Lincoln. Stinman was made the chairman.

At the September meeting a vacancy was made on the board by the removal from the county of J. R. Short, of Lincoln Township, and Barnett Mills was appointed to fill the place.

The board for the year 1867, was composed of: J. W. Stinman, F. M. Corr, James C. Gibbs, A. P. Littleton, T. M. Ewing, Barnett Mills, John Loucks, R. H. Marshall, James McMasters, Jacob Bally, Solomon Garrett.

The board met on January 7, 1867, at Fontanelle and proceeded to organization by the election of A. P. Littleton as permanent chairman.

In 1868, the board of supervisors met on January 6th, at Fontanelle, with the following membership: J. W. Stinman, James McMasters, R. H. Marshall, S. C. Vance, T. M. Ewing, B. F. McMullen, John J. Hetherington, Jacob Bally, Orin Dinsmore, Robert Snodgrass, Solomon Garrett. Stinman was chosen as chairman for the year. In June McMasters resigned his position on the board and Harrison Allsbaugh was elected in his place.

The board of supervisors for 1869 met at Fontanelle on January 4th, and the newly elected members duly sworn, took their seats. There were present the following: S. C. Vance, Robert Snodgrass, T. M. Ewing, Orin Dinsmore, R. W. Marshall, John Shreves, Joseph Smith, J. W. Stinman, L. C. Elliott, Jacob Bally, B. F. McMullen.

L. C. Elliott had the honor of being elected chairman for the ensuing year on the organization of the county board. At the June meeting, in the absence of Dinsmore and Snodgrass, their places on the board were filled by the appointments of Ambrose Jenkins and William Stevens. At this same time, township 74, range 31, now known as Orient, was set off from the civil township of Greenfield and the board ordered that the county auditor place the necessary papers for the organization and election therein in the hands of Reinhart Schweers, and naming the Schweers schoolhouse as the place of holding the election. This new township was to be known by the name of Dayton.

The first regular session of the board of supervisors for 1870 was held at Fontanelle on January 3d, with the following members present: L. C. Elliott, J. W. Stinman, John Schreeves, R. H. Marshall, W. M. Cady, S. C. Vance, Henry Fisk, A. Jenkins, L. R. McWhinny, J. A. Jennings, James McMasters, Joel E. Savage, R. C. Hitchcock. Vance was elected chairman. At the June session there was received by the board a petition from the legal voters that territory for the formation of a new township comprising all of congressional township 76 north, range 33 west, which was to be called Eureka. The board granted the petition, which had eleven signers, and ordered an election to be held at the house of G. W. Snyder at the time of the October election, 1870, and the warrant for the organization thereof was placed in the hands of H. Pangborn. The board also passed the following resolution: Resolved, that the county auditor is authorized to issue a county warrant for \$100 in favor of the first person that will deliver to the county treasurer, for the use of the county, twenty bushels of good stone coal, dug from the coal bank in Adair County, Iowa, and that any person finding a vein of coal two feet thick, receive a county warrant for \$200; three feet vein, \$300; four feet vein, \$400; five feet vein, \$500; six feet vein, \$600; and that sufficient be produced to the satisfaction of the board of supervisors that said coal has been found as above named and of good quality.

With the year 1871 a new order of things came into existence in regard to the composition of the board of supervisors. The cumbersome machinery of one representative from each township being entirely done away with and a board of three members elected at large by the county substituted in its place. The new board for that year met on January 2d and was composed of: A. P. Littleton, John J. Hetherington and A. Osborne. Littleton was made chairman for the ensuing year. At the April session of this board, township 77 north, range 33 west, was set off and made a separate civil township under the name of Summit, in response to a petition signed by twelve resident citizens. The schoolhouse on section 17 was designated as the place of holding the first election and Azariah Sisson the organizing officer.

Those composing the board for 1872 were A. P. Littleton, A. Osborne and T. M. Ewing. They met on January 1st. Littleton was continued as chairman for the year.



The board for the year 1873 was made of the same men, A. P. Littleton having been re-elected and was for a third time made chairman.

For 1874 the board was composed of A. P. Littleton, T. M. Ewing and J. W. Hastings; Littleton still occupying the place of chairman. It was during the term of office of this board that the petition was brought up to remove the county seat to Greenfield and this board ordered the vote of the electors thereon.

On January 4, 1875, the new board for the year met for the first time at Fontanelle and was composed of A. P. Littleton, J. W. Hastings and George A. Davis, Littleton still in the chair.

The board of supervisors met for the first time in regular session in Greenfield on September 6, 1875, where they have continued to meet ever since.

The board of supervisors for the different succeeding years have been composed as follows:

1876—J. W. Hastings, George A. Davis, T. J. Graham, with Hastings as chairman.

1877—G. A. Davis, R. H. Marshall, J. T. Graham, with Davis as chairman.

1878—J. T. Graham, R. H. Marshall, Josiah Arnold, with Graham as chairman.

1879—R. H. Marshall, Josiah Arnold, James H. Hulbert. Marshall was chairman.

1880—Josiah Arnold, J. H. Hulbert, Thomas C. Neville. Arnold was chairman.

1881—J. H. Hulbert, T. C. Neville, B. F. Childs. Hulbert was chairman for the year.

1882—T. C. Neville, B. F. Childs, J. H. Hulbert. Neville was chairman.

1883—B. F. Childs, J. H. Hulbert, E. M. Ford. Childs was the chairman.

1884—J. H. Hulbert, E. M. Ford, George Faga. Hulbert served this year as chairman. On the 30th of May E. M. Ford resigned his position and on August 4th John McCrea was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Since this time the following men have served the county as supervisors, each being elected for a term of three years in the year named: John McCrea, 1884; same, 1885; J. W. Rutt, 1886; W. B. Hoskins, 1887; Jeremiah M. Wilson, 1888; John Shaver, 1889; W. B. Hoskins, 1890; J. M. Wilson, 1891; David Eshelman, 1892; C. A. Ostran-

der, 1893; E. N. Fancher, 1894; C. A. Ostrander, 1896; J. C. Lane, 1897; Jeremiah W. Evans, 1898; John L. Garrett, 1890; W. W. Richey, 1900; J. W. Evans, 1901; John L. Garrett, W. R. Turner, 1902; W. R. Turner, 1903; George D. Musmaker, William A. Green, 1904; W. H. Brinton, J. S. Carlyle, W. N. Green, 1907; W. H. Brinton, H. H. Gerkin, 1908; W. N. Green, W. H. Brinton, 1910; H. H. Gerkin, T. A. Robinson, 1912; F. W. Fitzgerald, H. H. Gerkin, 1914. The above dates are those of the election.

#### SUMMARY OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

(Dates of Election)

##### *Clerks*

Theodore Smith, 1856-7; George B. Wilson, 1857-8; A. B. Smith, 1858; W. B. Hall, 1858-60; A. P. Littleton, 1860-2; W. B. Hall, 1862-4; W. B. Hall, 1864-6; W. B. Hall, 1866-8; James Raney, 1868-70; James Raney, 1870-2; John J. Hetherington, 1872-4; John J. Hetherington, 1874-6; John J. Hetherington, 1876-8; J. N. Haddock, 1878-80; J. N. Haddock, 1880-2; J. N. Haddock, 1882-4; Daniel A. Hites, 1884-6; Daniel A. Hites, 1886-8; Daniel A. Hites, 1888-90; Seth W. Mount, 1890-2; Seth W. Mount, 1892-4; Seth W. Mount, 1894-6; H. G. Lynch, 1896-8; H. G. Lynch, 1898-1900; H. G. Lynch, 1900-02; J. C. Hoyt, 1902-4; J. C. Hoyt, 1904-6; E. W. Adams, 1906-8; E. W. Adams, 1908-10; Walter C. Smith, 1910-12; Walter C. Smith, 1912-14; C. F. Roark, 1914-16.

##### *Auditors*

N. S. Taylor, the last county judge, elected in 1867, became the first county auditor, ex-officio, when the former office was abolished. Following him came: J. H. Bailey, 1869-71; J. H. Bailey, 1871-3; W. B. Martin, 1873-5; W. B. Martin, 1875-7; D. W. Marquart, 1877-9; D. W. Marquart, 1879-81; D. W. Marquart, 1881-3; George H. Smith, 1883-5; George H. Smith, 1885-7; D. W. Young, 1887-9; D. W. Young, 1889-92; D. W. Young, 1892-4; L. B. Davis, 1894-6; L. B. Davis, 1896-8; J. D. Friel, 1898-1900; J. D. Friel, 1900-02; R. B. Oldham, 1902-4; R. B. Oldham, 1904-6; Charles E. Clark, 1906-8; Charles E. Clark, 1908-10; S. E. Alley, 1910-12; S. E. Alley, 1912-14; M. A. Gettis, 1914-16.

*Treasurers*

The office of treasurer originated with the official position known as "treasurer and recorder." Joshua E. Chapman was elected to fill the dual position in 1854 and was succeeded by Francis M. Corr, 1857; S. W. Armstrong, 1858; Dr. T. M. Moore, 1861; G. F. Kilburn, 1863. During the latter's term of office the position of recorder was separated from that of treasurer and thus Kilburn became the first county treasurer. He served until 1866 and following him came: T. M. Moore, 1866-7; James C. Gibbs, 1867-9; James C. Gibbs, 1869-71; John Shreeves, 1871-3; L. J. Gray, 1873-5; L. J. Gray, 1875-7; John E. Hill, 1877-9; John E. Hill, 1879-81; John E. Hill, 1881-3; S. M. Shattuck, 1883-5; S. M. Shattuck, 1885-7; James A. Hetherington, 1887-9; James A. Hetherington, 1889-91; A. D. Crooks, 1891-3; A. D. Crooks, 1893-5; J. S. Hulbert, 1895-7; J. S. Hulbert, 1897-9; S. H. Moffitt, 1899-01; S. H. Moffitt, 1901-03; G. W. Van Camp, 1903-6; G. W. Van Camp, 1906-8; S. M. Mercer, 1908-10; S. M. Mercer, 1910-12; R. M. Wilson, 1912-14; R. M. Wilson, 1914-16.

*Recorders*

The office of recorder becoming separate from that of treasurer in the latter part of 1864, at the election that fall W. H. Brainard was chosen to fill the position for one term. Following him came: Wesley Taylor, 1866-8; Wesley Taylor, 1868-70; Wesley Taylor, 1870-2; R. O. Brown, 1872-4; R. O. Brown, 1874-6; R. O. Brown, 1876-8; John A. Easton, 1878-80; John A. Easton, 1880-2; E. S. Chenoweth, 1882-4; E. S. Chenoweth, 1884-6; William Bacon, 1886-8; William Bacon, 1888-90; R. O. Brown, 1890-2; R. O. Brown, 1892-4; T. W. Brown, 1894-6; T. W. Brown, 1896-8; John Chambers, 1898-1900; John Chambers, 1900-2; J. W. Roberts, 1902-4; J. W. Roberts, 1904-6; J. W. Roberts, 1906-8; M. G. McCreight, 1908-10; M. G. McCreight, 1910-12; Mrs. Tillie Hoadley, 1912-14; Minnie Barnett, 1914-16.

*Sheriffs*

Abner Root, 1854-7; Levi C. Elliott, 1857-9; John Ireland, 1859-61; J. K. Valentine, 1861-3; John Shreeves, 1863-5; P. G. Sage, 1865-7; Abner Root, 1867-9; George Salisbury, 1869-71; Solomon Garrett, 1871-3; C. B. Hunt, 1873-5; C. B. Hunt, 1875-77; C. B.



Hunt, 1877-9; W. C. Libby, 1879-81; W. C. Libby, 1881-3; W. C. Libby, 1883-5; G. A. Callison, 1885-7; A. J. Kingery, 1887-9; A. J. Kingery, 1889-91; J. H. Curley, 1891-3; J. H. Curley, 1893-5; D. A. Patterson, 1895-7; D. A. Patterson, 1897-9; Charles L. Swinehart, 1899-01; Charles L. Swinehart, 1901-3; B. H. Kenworthy, 1903-6; B. H. Kenworthy, 1906-8; B. H. Kenworthy, 1908-10; H. J. Harbour, 1910-12; H. J. Harbour, 1912-14; J. W. Porter, 1914-16.

### *Coroners*

Robert Wilson, 1857 (did not qualify); James P. Kenney, 1858; Philip Augustine, 1859-61; Philo G. Sage, 1861-3; Philip Augustine, 1863-5; J. McMaster, 1865-7; G. F. Kilburn, 1867-9; J. S. Waggener, 1869-70; N. S. Taylor, 1870-1; Joseph Gadd, 1871-3; N. S. Taylor, 1873-5; A. S. Carmichael, 1875-7; M. L. Bates, 1877-9; A. E. Markle, 1879-81; N. S. Taylor, 1881-3; E. B. Hicks, 1885-6; John C. Mason, 1886-7; E. B. Hicks, 1887-8; N. S. Taylor, 1888-9; W. H. Romesha, 1889-91; W. H. Romesha, 1891-3; W. H. Romesha, 1893-5; W. H. Romesha, 1895-7; W. H. Romesha, 1897-9; W. H. Romesha, 1899-1901; W. H. Romesha, 1901-3; E. Babcock, 1903-6; E. Babcock, 1906-8; E. Babcock, 1908-10; E. Babcock, 1910-12; E. Babcock, 1912-14; E. Babcock, 1914-16.

### *Surveyors*

S. W. Pryor, 1857-9; Simon Barrows, 1859-61-3; S. W. Pryor, 1863-5-7-9; J. M. Joseph, 1869-71; Waldo E. Adams, 1871-3; A. R. Dew, 1873-5; W. A. Prior, 1875-7; W. D. McCollum, 1877-9; W. R. Cochrane, 1879-81-3; F. M. Bates, 1883-5-7; George F. Clark, 1887-9-91; Frank Sargent, 1891-3; Eugene Wilson, 1893-5-7; George F. Clark, 1897-9-1901-3; A. C. Mayes, 1903-6-8-10-. The office of surveyor at this time was abolished and a county engineer appointed by the board of supervisors. C. H. Lehmkuhl has served continually as such.

### *Representatives*

Joseph L. Sharp, 1852-4; Richard Tutt, 1854-6; M. L. McPherson, 1856-7; E. D. Smith, 1857-61; Collin Marshall, 1861-3; E. B. Fenn, 1863-5; A. L. McPherson, 1865-7; G. F. Kilburn, 1867-9; W. H. Merritt, 1869-71; Oliver Mills, 1871-3; W. H. Easton, 1873-

5; M. K. Campbell, 1875-7; J. A. Hallock, 1877-9; Platt Wicks, 1879-81; Platt Wicks, 1881-3; John A. Storey, 1883-5-7; A. D. Crooks, 1887-9; P. McDermid, 1889-91; George F. Clark, 1891-3; W. B. Martin, 1893-5-7; K. R. Madden, 1897-9; Jerry M. Wilson, 1899-1901; W. H. McClure, 1901-3; R. W. Hollenbeak, 1903-6; E. J. Sidey, 1906-8; J. T. Dalby, 1908-10; G. W. Van Camp, 1910-12; E. J. Sidey, 1912-14; Pierre McDermid, 1914-.

### *Senators*

James Redfield, 1861-3; B. F. Roberts, 1863-5; J. R. Reed, 1865-9; Benjamin F. Murray, 1869-73; Lafayette Young, 1873-77-81; C. B. Hunt, 1881-5; Lafayette Young, 1885-91; A. L. Hager, 1891-3; L. M. Kilburn, 1893-5-9; J. J. Crossley, 1899-08; A. C. Savage, 1908-.\*

### *School Superintendents*

George White, 1858-9-61; Simon Barrows, 1861-3; James Ewing, 1863-5; Wesley Taylor, 1865-7; C. J. Bowman, 1867-9; J. W. Peet, 1869-71; H. J. Morgan, 1871-3; Mary Childs, 1873-5; M. W. Haver, 1875-7-9; J. W. Boyer, 1879-81-3; M. W. Haver, 1883-5-7; C. L. Wilson, 1887-9; Bessie R. Wagstaff, 1889-91; C. L. Wilson, 1891-3; A. A. Taylor, 1893-5-7-9; A. B. Chantry, 1899-01; Ella C. Chantry, 1901-3-6; Omer Vandivier, 1906-8-10; Adaline Brooks, 1910-12-.

### *County Attorneys*

D. M. Valentine, 1856-62; John Leonard, 1862-4; H. W. Maxwell, 1864-6; S. D. Nichols, 1866-70; C. H. Gatch, 1870-4; H. Y. Smith, 1874-8; William Connor, Jr., 1878-82; A. W. Wilkinson, 1882-6; C. W. Neal, 1886-8-90; F. H. Gaines, 1890-2-4; F. E. Gates, 1894-6-8; C. T. Launder, 1898-1900-2; George D. Musmaker, 1902-6; Ed R. Brown, 1906-8-10; M. C. Atchison, term ending December 31, 1910; O. W. Witham, term commencing January 1, 1911; O. W. Witham, 1912-14; D. A. Crowley, 1914-16.

### COURTHOUSE HISTORY

The first courthouse in the county was located, of course, at Fontanelle, the first county seat. It was constructed in 1856 by order of the county judge, J. J. Leeper. The county owned a quarter

\* In compiling the names of senators and representatives the names are those of the men who received the largest number of votes in Adair County and all were elected by the district vote and served their respective terms in the General Assembly.

section of land which was divided into town lots and sold and the money derived therefrom devoted to the building of the house of justice. The house was twenty-six feet wide, thirty-six feet long and ten feet high. When the building was ready for a roof it was decided to add a second story. Native lumber was used in the construction of the building and the hardware fixtures were hauled from Keokuk by wagon. The courtroom was located on the lower floor and the second story was used for the office rooms. After the removal of the county seat to Greenfield the courtroom was used as schoolhouse, church, by fraternal societies and for entertainments. In fact, school and church had been held there all the time. This old courthouse was destroyed by fire on January 5, 1910. It was in use at the time as a town hall.

When the seat of justice was located in Greenfield court convened in a large two-story frame building erected in 1874 by the Greenfield Building Association on lots donated by A. P. Littleton. This building cost nearly eight thousand dollars and was located on the east side of the square, where Warren's store is now situated. This building served its purpose until September, 1883, when it was destroyed by fire. The Transcript has the following to say of this fire:

"At 5 o'clock on Thursday morning Joseph Valentine, brother of James Valentine, proprietor of the Bon Ton Bakery, discovered that the rear portion of the building was on fire. It was already well under way and rapidly encroaching. The alarm was at once given and as soon as possible the bells were rung and the populace aroused. With no fire organization and no facilities for fighting the fire or pulling down buildings in its path, it seemed almost inevitable that all of the buildings on the southeast of the square would be burnt. Indeed nothing but the fact that there was little wind and a slight shower falling at the time, together with the almost superhuman exertions of the citizens, saved the entire east business part of the town.

"The fire soon spread to Bruce's stable in the rear of the Bon Ton and also swept its way along the row of buildings consisting of Randolph's meat market, Porter Brothers' barber shop, and Martin & Gray's land office, to the courthouse which was soon wrapped in flames. At the same time the fire leaped across the sixteen-foot alley to the stable of the Methodist Episcopal parsonage. From this there was almost a solid block of about twenty buildings westward along the south side of the square to Adair Street, with here and there a

space of only three feet between them. It spread rapidly along this row, taking John A. Storey's stable, John Shreeves' furniture store, and C. N. Wilson's flour and feed store. Between this and the post-office building there was a passage of three feet. If it could be stopped there the rest might be saved; if not, the whole group must go. More heroic valor was never shown upon the battlefield than was shown here. A line was formed and water in great quantities was carried and thrown over the postoffice building constantly. And men actually stood and worked in that narrow pass of three feet, throwing water over themselves and the building until the Wilson building burned down and the wall caved in, thereby saving the postoffice and preventing farther progress of the flames. Some gave out exhausted and others held their places until the victory was won.

"The courthouse had just been insured for \$2,400 and the county records were saved in the vaults."

Court was then held in the opera house and in a small one story frame building which was erected to cover the vaults. In November, 1890, the people decided by a satisfactory majority to erect a new building and on July 4, 1891, the cornerstone of the building was laid. The stone was laid by the Masonic fraternity, according to their rites and customs, the exercises being conducted by Grand Master Bowen of Des Moines. The following articles were placed in the cornerstone:

Holy Bible, donated by Teague and Sampson.

Constitution and by-laws of Crusade Lodge, 386, A. F. and A. M., with list of officers and members.

Constitution and by-laws of Fontanelle Lodge, 138, A. F. and A. M., with list of officers and members.

Officers and members of St. John's Chapter, 73, R. A. M., Fontanelle, Ia.

List of officers and members Greenfield Chapter, O. E. S.

Abstract of history of Adair County, by J. M. Gow.

One bottle each of corn, wine and oil.

Brief history of the city of Greenfield, from December 10, 1856, to date, by A. L. Hager.

History of Greenfield Transcript, by J. M. Gow.

History of M. E. Church, Greenfield, by Rev. A. W. Armstrong, pastor.

List of county officers of Adair County.



History of the organization of the Citizens Bank of Greenfield, with note, check, draft, notice and three pieces of coin, by J. J. Hetherington.

Letter by D. Heaton, to be opened by the oldest man present when taken out.

Duplicate tax receipt, by James A. Hetherington, treasurer.

A letter to be opened by Crusade Lodge, 386, A. F. and A. M., on opening the casket, by E. H. Bickford.

A letter by the members of Crusade Lodge, 386, A. F. and A. M., to the brethren who may open the casket.

A short business biography; also a record of the destructive fire of 1889, to be opened by the oldest merchant present in business in the City of Greenfield when opened, by E. E. Warren.

A piece of millstone, with history, by W. E. Chamberlain.

Professional card of T. W. Mulhern, M. D.

History of Greenfield schools from organization of town to date, by M. W. Rodgers and S. C. Vance, to be opened by president of school board.

Copy of the Greenfield Transcript.

Copy of Adair County Democrat.

Copy of Adair News.

Copy of Fontanelle Observer.

Copy of Des Moines Leader.

Copy of Des Moines State Register.

A nickel, issue of 1891, by J. M. Timberlake.

History of Crusade Lodge, 386, A. F. and A. M., by J. E. Howe.

The building was completed and accepted by the board of supervisors on March 25, 1892. It is located in the center of the public square, with a frontage of fifty-seven and a half feet and a depth of ninety-two feet, built of pressed brick and hewn stone. The total cost, including furniture, was only \$26,768.

#### JAIL

The new jail building was formally accepted by the Board of Supervisors of Adair County on December 8, 1903. The contract for the jail was let in April, 1903, to the Pauly Jail Building Company of St. Louis; the contract price being \$11,990. The Pauly people sublet the contract, excepting the cell work and plumbing, to M. D. Clark & Sons, local contractors, who did the masonry and carpentry work on the structure. The plumbing was done by the



ADAIR COUNTY COURTHOUSE, GREENFIELD





Creston Heating & Plumbing Company, which also put in the steam furnace. The Pauly people sent one of their men here for about two months to put in the steel work of the cells and to oversee the finishing of the work.

The new jail contains seven living rooms for the jailer, three rooms on the first floor and four rooms upstairs, ample closet room, as well appointed a kitchen, fitted up with range and hot and cold water, as any housewife could wish, lavatory and bathroom, and is in fact a model residence.

The residence portion is in the front part of the building. In the rear, separated from the residence by a fire proof cement wall and massive iron door, is the jail. Here as in the residence part everything is up-to-date, and the best system known to the prison builder's trade is used here. On the first floor of the jail are four cells. Two of these, separated from the main cells, are for women prisoners. They are fitted with folding wall bunks, have hot and cold water in each cell and are so arranged that the occupants can shut themselves from the sight of the public.

On the first floor are also two cells to be used for the detention of desperate criminals. These cells are of hardened steel and completely surrounded by a jailer's corridor. Opening from these two cells is an exercise corridor for the prisoners, containing a lavatory and water closet. The doors to these cells can be operated at will from the jailer's corridor by means of levers which operate the doors either singly or together as the jailer desires. The lock on these cells is a combination and key affair. The key cannot be used without first working the combination, thus making the locks doubly secure. There are four hammock banks in each of these cells.

There are two cells on the second floor and these are also surrounded by a jailer's corridor. The locking device for these cells, while not the same as on the cells downstairs, is worked by combination and key. There is an aperture in each cell through which to pass the prisoners their food. By this means a woman can feed the prisoners without placing herself in the least danger.

The plumbing and heating seems to be perfect. Steam heat is used and hot and cold water is furnished all over the building. There is also a bathroom in the jail.

The masonry and brick work is said to be as fine work as can be done. The walls in the residence portion are white finished and the rooms are finished in hard pine, natural finish.

In the basement is a pressure tank which furnishes water for the building. The furnace is of the latest, improved pattern and is more than ample for heating the building.

Prior to the building of the new jail, prisoners were taken to surrounding counties for safe keeping.

#### COUNTY POOR FARM

Prior to the acquiring of a county poor farm the care of the poor, the destitute, the helpless and insane was a serious problem. Certain families residing here were generally paid by the county for caring for one or more unfortunates, a method which was not only expensive, but often resulted in lack of care to the individual compelled to seek assistance. At length, on February 4, 1885, a tract of ground on the southwest quarter of section 32, Grove Township, was purchased of D. Heaton and wife for the sum of \$2,000. Buildings were added to this farm and it was created a county poor farm. Samuel Ewing was the first steward, receiving \$500 per annum for his work, which was just half of what is now paid. Usual farm occupations are offered to the inmates of this institution.

## CHAPTER III

### THE COUNTY SEAT WAR

During the first three decades of Adair County's existence considerable strife occurred over the question of the location of the county seat. Similar troubles have arisen in other counties of the state and in each there has been for years an element of hard feeling which refuses to be quenched. Whether this feeling has been eradicated from Adair County or not, cannot be definitely stated. Among the mass of the people the answer would be in the affirmative, but among certain individuals there would be a decided negative. It is not the purpose of this chapter to take one side or the other, but to observe strict neutrality, to state the cold facts and permit the reader to form his own opinion.

When the county was organized in 1855 three commissioners were appointed by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa to locate the seat of county government. The men upon this committee were George B. Hitchcock, Elias Stratford and John Buckingham. In pursuance of their assigned duties they selected the southwest quarter of section 17, in township 75, range 32, as the point at which the future town was to be laid out and considered the county seat of Adair. To this place they gave the name of Summerset, which was afterwards changed to the present title of Fontanelle.

The Town of Greenfield was laid out in 1856, located near the center of the county. From this time Greenfield fought her hardest to get the county seat removed from Fontanelle to her site. The first time this was mentioned upon the records was upon March 1, 1858, when S. W. Armstrong, as attorney, appeared before the County Court and presented a petition bearing the signature of ninety-one of the legal voters of the county, asking the court to order that a vote be taken at the following April election on the question of the removal of the county seat to Greenfield. Immediately J. H. Cooper presented a remonstrance to the above petition, signed by 137 of the legal voters of the county, asking that the question of

relocation of county seat be not opened nor voted upon. Thereupon Mr. Armstrong presented a paper signed by seventeen of the legal voters who had attached their names to both papers and asked that their said names be stricken off the remonstrance. Issue now being joined, the court heard the counsel for both sides, and, being advised in the matter, decided, that inasmuch as there was no proof of notice, or that notice had been published twenty days prior to the presentation of the petition, that no vote should be taken upon this question at the April election.

With this decision the people of Greenfield were compelled to be content for a time. Shortly the Civil war opened and the attention of the people was drawn to that conflict and the question of the county seat location was shelved. However, in the fall of 1865 the matter was again brought into view and the board ordered the question to be submitted to a popular vote of the people. This election occurred on October 10th and resulted in a vote of 139 to 130 in favor of retaining the county seat at Fontanelle.

At the June term of the board of supervisors in the year 1869 T. M. Ewing, a member of that body, presented a petition praying that the county seat of Adair County should be removed from Fontanelle to Greenfield. This action naturally created a great excitement and it is said that a heated argument occurred between Messrs. Shreves, Elliott and Vance, members of the board, with the result that the matter was referred to a committee of three who were appointed to investigate the affair. This committee consisted of John Shreves, William Stevens and S. C. Vance and after deliberation they made the following report:

"We, the undersigned, a committee appointed to examine the petition, together with the remonstrance, for the removal of the county seat to Greenfield, after an examination, would report in favor of granting the prayer of the petitioners."

This petition which was granted by the board was as follows:

"We, the undersigned petitioners, resident citizens and legal voters of Adair County, State of Iowa, would respectfully represent, that the best interests and general welfare of a large majority of the present citizens of said county demand a relocation of the county seat of the said county. That said county seat be removed from the Town of Fontanelle, Adair County, State of Iowa, where the same is now located, and that the same be relocated and established, permanently, at the Town of Greenfield, which is situated in the south half of section 7, in township 75 north, range 31 west of the fifth principal



meridian, in Adair County, State of Iowa, as is shown by the original plat of said Town of Greenfield, now on record in the recorder's office of said county. Your said petitioners, therefore, ask that your honorable board make an order that a vote be taken, at the next general election between the above-designated places, to wit: Greenfield, and the present county seat, to wit: Fontanelle; and that you cause the proper notice, therefore, to be given in pursuance and according to law; and that, if the said Town of Greenfield shall, at said election, receive a majority of all the votes cast, that you make a record thereof, and declare the same to be the county seat of said Adair County, State of Iowa, and that you cause the records and other documents to be removed thereto, as early as practicable thereafter and for this we shall ever pray."

To this petition there were signed about 443 names.

The board ordered at this time that the question be submitted to a general vote of the people at the next election. This election occurred on October 12, 1869: it resulted in a vote of 375 to 310 in favor of keeping the county seat at Fontanelle.

This defeat of the Greenfield clan was but a prophecy of the strife which was to come later.

At the June term of the board of supervisors, 1874, the following resolution was passed by that body:

"It appearing to the board that a proper notice of the presentation of a petition for the removal of the county seat from Fontanelle, where it now is, and to relocate the same at Greenfield, has been given, and a petition praying that said county seat be removed from Fontanelle and relocated in Greenfield having been presented, signed by more than one-half of the legal voters of the county, as shown by the last census,

"Therefore it is ordered, that, at the next general election, a vote be taken between Greenfield and the said existing county seat at Fontanelle."

In August of the same year a remonstrance was presented against the ordering of the vote, based upon the legality of the notice given of the presentation of petition. This remonstrance was signed by about twenty of the citizens of Fontanelle. The board considered the remonstrance and decided that the petition was legal, hence defeating the remonstrance.

Then there came a period of bitter strife which lasted until October 13, 1874, the date of the momentous election. This election resulted 852 to 500 in favor of removing the county seat to Green-

field. The board of supervisors immediately passed the following resolution: "It is hereby ordered by the board of supervisors of Adair County, Iowa, that the public records and documents of the different public offices, including those of the county treasurer, county auditor, county clerk, county recorder, county sheriff, county surveyor, county superintendent and coroner, together with all official furniture, fixtures, and things of every description pertaining to, or belonging to said offices, be removed from Fontanelle to Greenfield, the county seat of Adair County, immediately after the decision of Judge Cole is received, refusing to grant an injunction restraining the removal of the said records, etc."

However, Judge Cole granted the injunction asked for, but an appeal was taken from his decision to the Supreme Court. The appeal was argued before the court in December, 1874, and the decision rendered on March 18, 1875. At the time the argument on the injunction was heard, it was the opinion of some that an action of injunction was not the proper proceeding to test the merits of the case, but that the proceeding should have been certiorari. Accordingly a writ of that nature, accompanied by an injunction, was applied for before Judge Mitchell and granted by him.

As stated above a decision was rendered on the 18th of March by the Supreme Court, reversing the decision of Judge Cole. The decision closed as follows: "But what we decide is, that since the petition shows that an election ordered by the board of supervisors, made upon a petition and notice therefor and a vote thereupon adverse to plaintiff, they have no cause for equitable relief, justifying an injunction, and the order for the vote being conclusive until set aside by certiorari."

As an injunction of certiorari had already been started, it would not be legal, of course, to remove the records, etc., as ordered by the board of supervisors, until the matter was entirely settled and out of the courts. A special messenger was sent to Council Bluffs to obtain the decision and it was received in Greenfield March 20th. The people understood that this authorized them to move the county seat and accordingly, on the morning of March 22d, about two hundred fifty men in seventy-five wagons made the overland trip to Fontanelle with the intention of hauling the county records and furniture back to Greenfield. When the organization reached the courthouse there the sheriff ordered them to cease their efforts to remove the material, but they paid no attention to him, and in a short time the records of the courtroom, the clerk's office and also the sheriff's, including the



furniture, were loaded onto wagons. The Greenfield delegation then went to the jail, where were the offices of the recorder, treasurer and auditor, and here repeated their loading up process. The Fontanelle people were bitter at the invasion of the Greenfield men, but they were so completely taken by surprise that resistance was impossible. They claimed that damage was done by the Greenfield people in their excitement to remove the offices. The following paragraph is from a local paper at the time: "Where it was necessary to remove doors, in no case were the hinges unscrewed, but the door was forced off, tearing the door facings off also; which is but an illustration of the needless destruction done to counters, platforms and other fixtures." Whether much damage was done or not is a matter of two viewpoints.

There is no doubt that this action by the Greenfield people was a little hasty. Proper confirmation had not yet been received. A party of the citizens went to Judge Mitchell and told him to come to Greenfield to hold the Circuit Court, but he informed them that the county seat was yet at Fontanelle and consequently proceeded to that place. Arriving about three o'clock, he at once opened court and gave the sheriff an order, directing the Greenfield people to bring back the county records, etc. Several persons accompanied the sheriff to Greenfield. On presenting his order to the chairman of the board of supervisors the sheriff was told that he, the chairman, had not ordered their removal, hence could not direct them to be taken back. During the discussion that arose some person of Greenfield snatched the order from Judge Mitchell and tore it up, denouncing him at the same time.

On Tuesday morning the sheriff and posse were instructed to go after the records and were given a warrant for that purpose. On his arrival in Greenfield, however, he found he could do nothing so returned to the court and reported that he had been resisted by a mob. A messenger was sent to Des Moines on Tuesday evening and returned the following day with General N. B. Baker, the state adjutant general, who came with the authority to put down any hostile demonstrations. He went to Greenfield and explained the situation to the people and advised them to return the records, and finally, after much discussion, succeeded in getting their consent to do so, although they would not consent to return the records themselves. The records were accordingly taken back to Fontanelle.

On June 24, 1875, the war came to an end, when a decision of the Supreme Court was had, announcing that the election had been

sufficient and that Greenfield was the legal county seat. On June 22d, 1875, the board of supervisors ordered that the records, furniture and all supplies pertaining to the county seat should be removed to Greenfield, the new seat of justice. This terminated the county seat war.

## CHAPTER IV

### MILITARY HISTORY OF ADAIR COUNTY

Although the number of men enlisting from Adair County in the Civil war was very small, the county is justly proud of the part played by her few sons in the great drama of the '60s. Enshrined in the hearts of the people, these men who resolutely faced the terrors of the South, risking life, home, health and everything that was dear to them, in order that the Union might be preserved, truly deserve more than a few scattering words to their memory. It is true that monuments may be erected, the deeds of the brave sung in immortal verse and ennobled in the national literature, but the true memorial the sanctity of the heart will enfold and by word of mouth from generation to generation will the courage, fortitude and sublime self-sacrifice of the "boys in blue" be transmitted in enduring form. History has a purpose; it is to preserve fairly and justly the records of the past, so that a guide may be supplied to the thoughts and conceptions of future men and women when these white pages have grown sear and yellow. There are many men living in Adair County in 1915 who fought for their country in the troop ranks of other states—New Hampshire, Indiana, New York, the Carolinas and Ohio and other states. It is the least that Adair County can do, to accord them the same honor and homage which she pays her own sons.

When the war first broke over the country there were but 984 people living in Adair County. With this small population it was impossible for the county to muster a large number of soldiers for the Union. There were exactly eighty-eight soldiers who went to the war from this county that were accredited to it and several others went outside of the county and were enrolled. Bounties were liberally offered by the county for volunteers.

The general reader of today does not appreciate the scope of the word "slavery," just what it meant in those days. The true meaning has either been mercifully expurgated from the pages of modern literature; or, it may be said, it is unfortunate that more has not been

written of it, in order that the facts might be common knowledge. The term "white slavery" is well known and the meaning of the phrase brings to us a feeling of loathing and indignation. The slavery of the South was little better, was even more universal and more countenanced. In the ulterior character different in motive, it yet embodied deeds and principles exactly similar to the modern slavery. The inter-relation of the races meant commercial advancement on the auction block, thus the justification. Rome and the other Latin countries had their slavery and the national literature does not disguise the dreaded institution.

The outbreak of the Civil war has been attributed to many causes. These are all based upon the same thing—slavery. The political differences and the intrigues and enmities rested on this issue alone. In reading this deduction, many will disagree, for even at this late day there seems to be incontrovertible argument on both sides of the question. Slavery was distinctly out of tune with the times; the attitude of the southerners was falsely aristocratic; all of which tended to their inevitable downfall. The stirring times which followed the Mexican Territory acquisition, the fugitive slave law, the Missouri Compromise, the struggle in Congress, the Lincoln-Douglas debates and the election of Lincoln to the presidency, cannot be detailed in a work of this scope, but a discussion is worthy of place.

A greater appreciation of Lincoln's worth is gained when we contemplate the arena into which he stepped in 1860. The utter confusion, the threatening war clouds, and the words of the people, "Let's see what you can do," were stern tests for the backwoods lawyer. The opportunity was given him and his accomplishments are history.

War might have been avoided had the North recognized the slaves on the same basis as cattle or any other common property, or, on the other hand, had the South reverted to the sentiment of the North and pronounced slavery an evil. It is evident, however, when the tenor of the day is considered, that these two theories were impossible. The mass of the people on both sides were eager for the actual conflict; mob spirit prevailed in many places; but the greater minds, the leaders, entered the struggle with heavy hearts. Lincoln, Grant, Lee, Jackson and Longstreet, and other foremost figures of the war, were sad with the weight of unjust and useless carnage. The four years' strife, the early success of the Confederate hosts, the high tide at Gettysburg, the slow, merciless pounding of Grant's machine on the



LUCIAN M. KILBURN

As Corporal of Company E. 16th Regiment, New Hampshire  
Volunteer Infantry, in 1862





depleted Army of Northern Virginia and the final chapter at Appomattox can be no more than mentioned.

The early days of the war were attended with much excitement in Adair County. The toll of grim death which was to be exacted bore no part in the thoughts of the people; they alone thought of the pomp and circumstance of war, its glory, its martial spirit. The county was strictly Union, in contrast to some of her southern sister counties of the state.

Following is the roster of the men who went to war from this county:

#### FOURTH INFANTRY

##### Company B

John C. Carpenter.

##### Company F

W. F. Adams.

#### TENTH INFANTRY

##### Company B

Andrew Aarons, Marion Farrell.

#### TWENTY-NINTH INFANTRY

##### Company D

M. E. Black, second lieutenant.

E. G. Currier, Isaac Hoch, J. M. Stewart, F. M. McAfferty, Charles F. Currier, F. A. Buck, Jacob Augustine, P. C. Barrows, A. D. Littleton, Joseph Clary, Benton Reid, G. W. Lents, Stephen Bish, Myron Bunce, Stephen Carley, Joseph Dugan, C. H. Black, Daniel Dugan, Bice Friend, Isaac Lents, Thomas Lucas, James S. McCall, W. B. Maxwell, S. H. Myers, W. M. Nelson, W. M. Rodgers, J. A. Robison, Jonathan Shreeves, W. B. Thomas, James M. Witte, W. F. Adams, W. R. McCall, P. T. Davis, S. B. Easton, Miles Friend, G. W. Lucas, Edward Lee, Hugh H. McCall, George McCartney, D. S. Moore, E. G. Pendleton, H. W. Rodgers, A. C. Reid, G. W. Thomas, W. H. Wilson, John J. Myers, William L. Bennett.

## HISTORY OF ADAIR COUNTY

## FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY

## Company E

Theodore Brown, Frederick H. Cears.

## SECOND VETERAN CAVALRY

## Company A

Joseph D. Davis.

## Company B

John F. Camel.

## Company I

Christopher M. Johnson, Thomas Kenberry, John S. King, M. P. Shadley.

## NINTH IOWA CAVALRY

## Company H

M. E. Black, sergeant.

## FOURTH CAVALRY

## Company I

J. R. Overmyer, lieutenant.

John H. White, Samuel M. Kendrick, S. M. McClure, Thomas Miner, A. P. Codner, D. H. Chapman, T. M. Ewing, W. H. Pace, Abner Root, R. E. Ewing, Thomas H. Atwood, W. A. Wilson, John S. Winkley, John M. Crane, Philo G. Sage, John Schweers, M. T. Crittenden, O. H. Colvin, E. C. Goings, F. Pace, Henry Stroup, G. W. Atkins, J. H. While, A. B. Hubbard.

## ROLL OF HONOR

W. A. Wilson, Company I, Fourth Cavalry, died of chronic diarrhoea at Keokuk, November 11, 1862.

A. B. Hubbard, same company and regiment, died of pneumonia at Mound City, Ill., November 22, 1862.

John M. Crane, Company I, Fourth Cavalry, died at Atlanta, Ga., July 23, 1865, of chronic diarrhoea.

William H. Pace, Company I, Fourth Cavalry, died of typhoid fever at Memphis, Tenn., May 6, 1864.

Henry Stroup, Company I, Fourth Cavalry, died at Montgomery, Ala., April 28, 1865, of camp diarrhoea.

Miles Friend, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died at Helena, Ark., February 4, 1863.

Isaac Lents, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died on February 7, 1863, at Helena, Ark.

Thomas Lucas, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died at Helena, Ark., February 5, 1863.

William B. Maxwell, died at Keokuk, Ia., July 16, 1863; was member of Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry.

George McCartney, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died February 2, 1863, at Helena, Ark.

D. S. Moore, same company and regiment, died at Memphis, Tenn., March 27, 1863.

W. B. Thomas, same company and regiment, died March 1, 1865, at New Orleans, La.

James M. Witte, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died at Helena, Ark., May 13, 1863.

John C. Carpenter, Company B, Fourth Infantry, died of camp fever October 6, 1861, at Rolla, Mo.

Jacob Augustine, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died at Helena, Ark., February 3, 1863.

C. H. Black, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died February 3, 1863, at Helena, Ark.

Stephen Bish, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died at Helena, Ark., July 9, 1863.

Daniel Dugan, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died of pleurisy, January 27, 1863 at Helena, Ark.

S. B. Easton, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died January 29, 1863, at Helena, Ark., of typhoid fever.

Bice Friend, Company D, Twenty-ninth Infantry, died of erysipelas at Helena, Ark., January 29, 1863.

#### SKETCH OF TWENTY-NINTH IOWA INFANTRY

As the majority of the men from Adair County enlisted in the Twenty-ninth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, the following brief sketch of this regiment's part in the war is appended:

The regiment was organized at Council Bluffs and mustered into the service of the United States at that place on December 1, 1862, with the following officers: Thomas H. Benton, Jr., of Council Bluffs, colonel; R. F. Patterson, of Keokuk, lieutenant-colonel; and Charles B. Shoemaker, of Clarinda, major. The regiment was ordered to Helena, Ark., but upon reaching that place was not detrained, but ordered to join an expedition then being organized by General Gorman, to go up the White River. This expedition resulted in no good to anybody, but on the contrary, was the cause of much suffering to the troops. In April and May, 1863, the Twenty-ninth formed part of the expedition to Fort Pemberton and came back to Helena in time to take part in the attack on that place on the 4th of July, 1863.

Helena had been made a depot of supplies and recruits and was a source of much uneasiness and alarm to the rebels, still holding the most of Arkansas, threatening, as it did, the more important points therein. Brigadier General Holmes of the Confederate army was ordered to take it. Re-enforced by the troops of Generals Sterling Price, Fagan, McRae, Walker, Marmaduke and Parsons, until his force numbered 7,646 men, he appeared before the place. Helena was fortunately under the command of Maj. Gen. B. M. Prentiss, who had 3,800 effective men behind strong earthworks, mounted with serviceable guns, with the main approaches covered with abatis. The gunboat Tyler, under command of J. M. Pritchett, was also in hand and played an efficient part in the defense. The Twenty-ninth was drawn up in line of battle at daylight and marched across the bottom to their position on Sterling Road about 4.30 o'clock. Two companies were immediately set forward to drive the enemy from their position on the crest of the hill, but, finding them too strong, other companies were sent to their assistance, until eight were thus employed. In the meantime, the enemy had got two guns into battery, with which they opened a brisk fire and under which their line pushed rapidly forward, cheering and exulting as they advanced. Our skirmishers met them with a galling and incessant fire, under which they gradually fell back, contesting the ground inch by inch. The skirmish line of the Twenty-ninth now pressed the rebels back to the crest of the hill, previously held by the Confederates, compelling them for a time to abandon their guns, which, however, after several ineffectual attempts, they recovered, leaving one caisson on the field. The regiment, supported by the Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, in this contest was pitted against one brigade of five regi-

ments of infantry, one battery and two regiments of cavalry, and reported a loss of seven killed and twenty-four wounded, some mortally and many of them severely.

On the 1st of August, 1863, General Rice's brigade, to which the Twenty-ninth was attached, became a part of the expedition intended for the reduction of Little Rock, Ark., under command of Maj.-Gen. Frederick Steele. Leaving Helena August 11, 1863, after a fatiguing march, they reached the front of the enemy's works before the city on September 10th. Fully expecting a severe contest for the possession of the capital of Arkansas, they were disappointed, the enemy evacuating the place upon the charge of the cavalry division under General Davidson, who was in the advance.

The Twenty-ninth was on duty in Arkansas with the remainder of the division throughout the balance of the years 1863-4 and had several engagements with the rebels. On the morning of the 2d of April, 1864, the Twenty-ninth was assigned the position of rear guard to the supply train, together with a section of Captain Vogler's battery. While the train was passing through a narrow, muddy defile made by a small stream, about a mile beyond Terre Noir Bayou, a battalion of Shelby's cavalymen made an attack on the rear, but was held in check by the left wing of the regiment. As soon as the advance had cleared the ravine Colonel Benton ordered the line to be formed and the battery into position and opened upon the advancing rebels. This was responded to with spirit and accuracy with two pieces of artillery. The enemy fell back, but made demonstration of a flank attack on the left, whereupon Colonel Benton with his regiment returned to Terre Noir Bayou, where the rebels again renewed the attack. This was met as before by the fire of the battery and a few rounds of musketry, which sufficiently discomfited the rebels to enable the Union line to fall back under cover of the fire of the skirmish line to a hill two miles distant. At this point the regiment was deployed on each side of the road and the battery placed into position and the enemy came up in force and made a desperate charge on our left wing, but was promptly repulsed, upon which he fell back, crossed the road, and attacked the right with no better success. The engagement lasted about an hour and a half, although the Twenty-ninth was not engaged any more, the brunt of the balance of the conflict being borne by the Fiftieth Indiana Regiment, which had just come up. The loss to the Twenty-ninth in this battle was twenty-seven killed, wounded and missing, including among the wounded three commissioned officers.



In the engagement of April 4th at Elkin's Ford on the Little Missouri, this regiment was ordered forward by General Rice across the bayou and drawn up in line of battle in the rear of four companies of the Thirty-sixth Iowa, under the command of Lieut.-Col. F. M. Drake. The left wing was subsequently ordered back across the bayou under Major Shoemaker and drawn up in line in the rear of the remaining six companies of the Thirty-sixth Iowa, and the right wing was ordered to fall back to the bank of the bayou. No part of the regiment was engaged with the enemy and the casualties were confined to one man wounded.

On the afternoon of April 10, 1864, another engagement was had with the enemy at Prairie d'Anne, where the regiment was ordered into position as reserve in the rear of the Thirty-third Iowa. The line of battle having been formed, it was propelled forward, skirmishing with the enemy, but driving them back at all points, and the march resumed toward Camden.

On the morning of April 30, 1863, the Twenty-ninth was also engaged in the battle of Jenkin's Ferry. The official report on this battle speaks in glowing terms of the gallantry of this favorite regiment. Colonel Engelman, commanding the brigade, thus officially speaks of it as: "One of the most sanguinary engagements of the war and was fought exclusively by infantry, the section of artillery brought into position by us firing but a single shot while the enemy's battery of four pieces went into position only to be taken by a combined charge of the Twenty-ninth Iowa and the Second Kansas. The ground over which the battle was fought, with the exception of two open fields near the road, was a majestic forest, growing out of a swamp, which was very difficult to pass on horseback, the infantry being up to their knees in water most of the time."

Between the 11th of August and the 10th of September, 1863, the Twenty-ninth, with the balance of the army, marched with General Steele to Little Rock. The weather was exceedingly hot and dry and there was little of any worth transpired except the difficulty of the march. Many were sunstruck and it was impossible to get all the sick in the ambulance. This campaign ended in the occupation of Little Rock, where the regiment went into winter quarters.

In the spring the regiment was unfortunate enough to be a participant in the Red River expedition, following General Steele in what was known as the Camden campaign.

On the return of the army to Little Rock a reorganization was effected and the Twenty-ninth was assigned to the First Brigade of the First Division. It was afterward transferred to the Second Brigade, Second Division, where it remained until the end of the war.

The regiment remained at Little Rock nearly a year, except about a month from the latter part of July to the 1st of September, when it was stationed at Lewisburg on the Arkansas, fifty miles above Little Rock.

When Gen. J. J. Reynolds assumed the command of the Department of Arkansas, there was another reorganization of the army. In this the Twenty-ninth was assigned to an organization known as the "Detached Brigade of the Seventh Army Corps" and Brig.-Gen. E. A. Carr was made the commander. Under this leader they received orders to proceed to New Orleans, on which expedition they started on the 9th of February, 1865. After a tedious voyage the regiment reached New Orleans on the 14th and 16th of February. The Twenty-ninth was quartered in an old foundry in Algiers, across the river from New Orleans. On the 20th the regiment moved by rail to Lake Port on Lake Ponchartrain and thence by steamer to Mobile Point, Ala. The vessel on which they were embarked ran aground in Grant's Pass, one of the inlets of the harbor of Mobile, and they had to be transferred to another steamer. They were disembarked on February 23d and without tents or baggage went into bivouac on the sands of Navy Cove, three miles in the rear of Fort Morgan, one of the defenses of Mobile.

The preparations for the campaign now commenced. On March 17th the army proceeded toward Mobile. On the 25th it found itself under the guns of one of the strongest defenses of the city, Spanish Fort, and at once began its investment. After the capture of Spanish Fort the regiment marched to the assistance of General Steele, who was investing Fort Blakely, another of the defenses of Mobile. Later the regiment entered Mobile and immediately left for Mount Vernon arsenal. On the 1st of June the regiment sailed for Texas. When General Sheridan assumed command of the Military Division of the Gulf he directed the immediate muster out of the Twenty-ninth. The regiment sailed for New Orleans in the latter part of July and on the 10th of the following month was honorably discharged from the service.

## ADAIR COUNTY BOYS IN THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

When President McKinley issued his first call for volunteers in April, 1898, a score or so Adair County boys were upon their feet and eager to enlist in the forces of Uncle Sam. They were accordingly taken to Des Moines and were mustered into Company G, Fifty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry. This company was mostly raised in Creston. The men who composed this first enrollment from Adair County were: J. F. Grounds, first sergeant; Daniel W. Gaines, corporal; Ezra J. Brayton, Harry Carver, Leroy Darby, Martin G. Dunlap, Charles E. Geesman, Herbert M. Griffith, G. B. Hetherington, Fred M. Ickis, Ernest C. James, W. B. Martin, Jr., Fred Neeley, Ernest O. Patterson, Roy Reno, Vern W. Shrader, William Wallace, Wesley Witter. By the first of June many more men were ready to enlist and Lieut. R. J. Gaines came up from Creston to recruit them. Those who went at this time were: Fred Lovely, Harry Wilson, Howe McCollum, Milo Witter, Will Stryker, all from Greenfield; C. L. T. Herbert, George Sines, Richard Henry, William Arthur, Robert Eby, R. V. Stevens, William McLaren, Vess Fisher, Ed F. Ross, E. Spangler, W. Merrill, Ed Kempter, Ed Sutphin, C. J. Cissne, Walter Hostetler, Frank Humphrey, James Gillespie, James Needles, William Witter, L. Stoner, William McKelvey, Robert Britten and Fred Carver. Carver died of typhoid fever at the Presidio and his body was returned to Fontanelle and buried in Fontanelle Cemetery.

Hayes Hendry, son of J. G. Hendry of the Union Bank of Bridgewater, was a soldier in the Philippines and died there. His body was returned by the Government and buried at Bridgewater.

## REGIMENTAL SKETCH

The regiment was mustered into the service on May 30, 1898, and directed to await orders from the War Department. On June 2d they received orders from the adjutant general, U. S. A., assigning them to the Philippine expeditionary forces and directing them to proceed to San Francisco, Cal. On June 5th the regiment was placed on three separate trains and reached San Francisco on the morning of June 10th. Just before leaving Des Moines, which was accepted into the service with sixty-five men to each company, was ordered to be recruited to the maximum strength of 106 men to the company. Recruiting officers were left in Iowa to enlist and forward the requisite number of men.





ADAIR COUNTY SOLDIERS IN THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

Top row, left to right: Martin Dumlup, Charles E. Geeseman, Tarr, Frank Humphrey, Fred Neeley, William Wittey, Walter Hostedler. Third row: Del Wiggins, Ezra J. Brayton, Ernest C. James, Lieut. R. J. Gammes, E. O. Patterson, Dan Gammes, W. B. Martin, Jr., Leroy Darby. Second row: Fred Lovely, Will Stryker, Harry Wilson, Wesley Wittey, George Fraser. Lower row: Al McCallum, George Hetherington, William Wallace, Wiggins.





By the latter part of June the regiment had been recruited to its full strength, 1,332 men.

The fact that the regiment was the last to be assigned to the Philippine expeditionary forces and next to the last to reach San Francisco, and the further fact that it contained so many recruits and they not properly and comfortably equipped, was the cause of its not being sent to the Philippines in June or July. Camp Merritt was an unhealthy camp, being located so near the ocean where the cold winds and fogs were almost continuous. On July 29th the men were moved to the Presidio, where they were more sheltered. During all this time they were given daily drills and target practice.

On November 3d the regiment went aboard the transport Pennsylvania and the same day sailed for Manila. At this time the regiment had been reduced from 50 officers and 1,332 men to 50 officers and 1,040 men; 27 men had died of disease in San Francisco. All the men who were unfit for service and those having urgent necessity for being relieved from the service were discharged.

Manila Bay was reached on the morning of December 7, 1898. The regiment was assigned to the First Separate Brigade, Department of the Pacific, and Eighth Army Corps, Gen. M. P. Miller commanding. They departed for Iloilo, Panay Island, on December 26th, and by the 30th had moved to within one mile of the city. Pursuant to special orders, No. 29, First Separate Brigade, Eighth Army Corps, left the harbor at Iloilo and arrived at Cavite on January 31, 1899, remaining on the transport during the whole month of January.

The last troops were not yet ashore when the storm of war descended. At 11 o'clock Saturday night, February 4th, the call to arms was sounded; word was sent that the insurgents had attacked the Americans at Manila. From across the bay the thunder of guns and the roll of volleys told that the outbreak had come at last. It was expected that the natives would attack Cavite from San Roque, but they did not and the men slept on their arms. For a few days the regiment had only to do guard and outpost duty. On February 8th Admiral Dewey ordered that a flag of truce be sent to the insurgents of San Roque and that if the town was not evacuated by 9 A. M. February 9th he would bombard the town. When 9 o'clock arrived San Roque was in flames. The natives had fled, firing the town and thousands of dollars' worth of property. The following troops were ordered to enter the town and save the capital: Third Battalion, Fifty-first Iowa, commanded by Major Moore; California

Heavy Artillery with three gatling guns, under Major Rice; Second Battalion, Fifty-first Iowa, under Major Hume; and a troop of Nevada cavalry. They advanced about three miles with slight skirmishing to the causeway beyond the town, across which the outposts of the enemy were posted; there a strong position was taken. On February 11th the Second Battalion returned to Cavite and the Third Battalion remained on duty. It was a trying position. The outpost duty was exacting and the troops were frequently exposed to the enemy's fire. On February 15th the insurgents made an advance, but were soon driven back by the fire from the artillery and volleys from Company I. On February 11th a battalion of the Fifty-first Iowa was ordered to Manila at once. The First Battalion, Companies H, F, A and D, under command of Major Duggan, was sent.

At nightfall this command embarked in lighters and were towed across the bay. The battalion was landed on the luneta and received instructions to report to General Anderson on the south line, about five miles south of Manila. Assistant Surgeon Macrae was detailed to accompany this battalion. The First Battalion bivouacked for the night near an old monastery at Pasai and here for a time encamped. A few miles to the left there was frequent heavy firing and night after night the troops were aroused by the booming of field batteries and the rolling of machine guns and the sound of volleys. Brisk firing in the immediate front was frequent and all the companies soon knew the song of the Mausers. For several days the men were kept busy building trenches and otherwise strengthening the lines. The battalion was attached to General Ovenshine's brigade, the Second Brigade, First Division. Companies of battalion served in the vicinity of Culi Culi Church, Pasai, and San Pedro, Macati. The service here was arduous. Day and night a harassing fire was kept up by the sharpshooters of the enemy concealed in the bamboos and jungles in front. Outpost duty was perilous and there was constant hazardous scouting and patrolling. On March 28th, while with a scouting party from Company H, Private Fred Borduwine was cut off in the midst of a hot fire from the insurgents. Information gained later was that he was wounded in the leg, captured and taken to Malivay by the Philippine natives. Captain Worthington at once took out a party of eighteen men from Company H and six from Company A, all volunteers, to search for the missing man. The scouting party had been fired upon near a stone culvert where the dry bed of a small stream intersects the road run-

ning south from Culi Culi Church. Captain Worthington's party entered the creek bed a good distance east of the bridge and followed it along until the scouts could reach the ground where Private Borduwine was lost. Here the enemy was soon encountered. A sharp and brilliant skirmish followed, in which the insurgents were roughly handled. Many were killed and wounded, while the Americans, moving back by the left flank, retraced their course without loss. Private Borduwine was never found.

The advance on Calumpit was planned to begin on Monday, April 24, 1899. Fighting was precipitated a day before this, however. The day was intensely hot and in the open rice fields the men suffered greatly. For three hours the struggle lasted and then the Filipinos were forced from their position, and Quingua captured. That night the entire regiment was concentrated at Quingua and at daybreak Hale's brigade crossed the Bagbag River, after slight resistance, and moved down parallel with the right bank of that stream toward Calumpit. The firing, from two to three miles in length, swept the country clean as it advanced. The Iowa troops were on the extreme right. In the course of a toilsome day's work under a boiling sun, the brigade fought its way through miles of rice fields and jungles, beset with trenches. Near the town of Pulilan, a short distance from Quingua, the right of the regiment encountered a strong force. It was routed and eighty Filipinos killed. That night the regiment bivouacked along the newly captured trenches. The next day Calumpit was taken by storm. The natives had built their trenches up with railroad iron and ties and had boasted that they could not be taken, but, although the fortified position was the strongest the Americans had encountered to date, they were successfully occupied.

On May 4th the division advanced on San Fernando, the insurgents' capital. A day of unequalled toil and hardship followed. By superhuman efforts the Iowans plowed through the mud of the Candaba Swamp and drove the enemy in full retreat, through Santo Tomas. Here the division bivouacked. The following morning the troops descended on San Fernando; General Hale directed the troops in person. The Iowa troops charged across the river before San Fernando, scattering a force of insurgents left behind to burn the town, and sent them flying across the fields. The Fifty-first claims the honor of having been the first to enter the town. One man was wounded. Beginning with June 16th there were frequent counter-attacks by the insurgents on San Fernando, but none were successful.

On August 9th ten companies of the regiment were formed and marched to the outpost of the Seventeenth Infantry, where they deployed as skirmishers on the right of the railroad, and advanced on Calulut, meeting with considerable resistance from the enemy. So reduced was the regiment by hardships and so thinned were its ranks by disease and wounds that but 236 men out of the ten companies were available for duty when Calulut was reached.

After a period of provost, outpost and patrol duty in San Fernando, the regiment was relieved by the Fourth Cavalry, and they were assigned to quarters in the walled City of Manila. On September 22d the regiment sailed for San Francisco on the transport Senator, there to be mustered out. Visits were paid to Japan en route. On October 22d the regiment went into camp at the Presidio and there mustered from the service on November 2d.

The regiment was composed of twelve companies, from A to M, coming respectively from the towns of Des Moines, Villisca, Greenwood, Knoxville, Shenandoah, Oskaloosa, Creston, Des Moines, Bedford, Corning, Council Bluffs, Red Oak. The Fifty-first Regiment was the Third Regiment of the Iowa National Guard prior to being mustered into the service of the United States. The Iowa National Guard as an organization dated back to January 15, 1877, but Company A of the Fifty-first had been organized as far back as 1869, at which time it was an independent company. Greenfield once had a company known as Company B, Third Iowa National Guard, which company was organized in 1879.

Of the 1,320 men who left Iowa in the Fifty-first only about eight hundred names remained on the rolls when they returned. Fifty-two men were invalided, 71 men and 2 officers re-enlisted in the regulars and 40 were discharged. The continual skirmishing and severe service that the regiment saw for about six months in Luzon induced much sickness and when the orders came to leave the front for home only 218 men of the regiment were fit for duty.

On Tuesday morning, November 7, 1899, the train arrived in Greenfield from Creston, bearing the boys back home. Bells were rung, whistles blown, cannons fired and almost the entire town cheered themselves hoarse as the soldiers alighted from the cars. A parade was formed, headed by the band, then came the Grand Army of the Republic, then the Philippine veterans, the mayor, the council, the I. W. A. C., and students of the public schools with their teachers. At the south entrance to the public square the procession passed under the arch erected by the W. R. C. with the inscription, "In



Honor of Our Boys." They paraded once around the square and entered the courtyard through the arch erected by the L. W. A. C., bearing the inscription, "Home, Sweet Home." Once in the courtyard the parade rested and everybody grasped the hands of the bronzed soldier lads. When all greetings had been exchanged Mayor W. W. Don Carlos, in a short speech, welcomed them home. Lieut. R. J. Gaines responded with a short talk.

The banquet to the returned soldiers was held at the Warren Opera House on Wednesday. People from all parts of the county came, laden with food. The soldiers, their parents and relatives occupied the tables on the south side of the hall. A few speeches were made. In the evening a program of speeches and music was held at the same place, the soldiers sitting across the front of the stage.

The following are the names of the men who returned from the Philippines at this time: R. J. Gaines, Dan Gaines, Charles Geese-man. Leroy Darby, Fred Lovely, Frank Humphrey, Ernest James, Fred Neeley, William Witter, Wesley Witter, Walter Hostetler, William Wallace and Ezra Brayton.

The photograph accompanying this article was taken shortly after the men returned to Greenfield.

#### ADAIR COUNTY'S HONORED DEAD

The following are buried in the cemetery of Greenfield:

##### Civil War Veterans

E. R. Gantt, sergeant, Company I, Tenth Iowa Infantry. C. G. Cleland, private, Company G, Seventh Wisconsin Infantry. W. V. Hamlin, lieutenant, Company I, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry. E. W. Piper, private, Company B, Ninety-first Illinois Infantry. Nathan Mason, private, Company A, One Hundred Forty-eighth Illinois Infantry. S. G. Brown, private, Company B, Fifth Iowa Cavalry. David King, private, Company H, One Hundred Forty-sixth Illinois Infantry. T. M. Gile, private, Company G, Forty-fifth Illinois Infantry. C. E. Sampson, sergeant, Company D, First Iowa Cavalry. Ed Morris, private, Company G, One Hundred Thirty-ninth Illinois Infantry. W. M. Rodgers, private, Company D, Twenty-seventh Illinois Infantry. Peter Hoover, private, Company G, Eighty-sixth Ohio Infantry. William Romesha, sergeant, Company C, Fifteenth Iowa Infantry. H. P. Wobert, Company D, Seventh



Iowa Infantry. J. P. Sinclair, private, Company F, Forty-third Indiana Infantry. Abraham Miller, private, Company B, Fiftieth Illinois Infantry. M. S. Doane, sergeant, Company K, Thirty-ninth Iowa Infantry. J. A. Hetherington, drummer and private, Company I, Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry and Company K, Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania Infantry. Oswin Cahow, sergeant, Company D, One Hundred Twelfth Illinois Infantry. Zadoek Perkins, private, Company D, Second Iowa Cavalry. D. M. Priddy, Company L, Sixth Iowa Cavalry. G. C. Havens, Company B, Twenty-fifth Iowa Infantry. A. L. Harrison, Company B, Thirty-ninth Iowa Infantry. Jasper Reno, Seventh Indiana Battery. T. J. Harvey, Company E, Fifteenth Indiana Infantry. Franklin Letts, Company D, One Hundred Second Illinois Infantry. H. B. Goodman, Company D, One Hundred Forty-fourth New York Infantry. J. J. Hetherington, Company H, Twenty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry. Joseph Sevasin, Company E, Fifty-eighth Illinois Infantry. J. G. Goodman, Company B, Ninety-fifth Illinois Infantry. J. M. Bean, Company A, Ninth Kentucky Cavalry. Fleming Bevens, Company C, Nineteenth Iowa Infantry. J. G. Orr, drum major, Company H, One Hundred Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry. E. J. Stevenson, Company K, Seventh Illinois Cavalry. James McNair, Company A, Eighth New York Artillery. S. A. Gordon, Company F, Thirty-ninth Iowa Infantry. William H. Needles, Company I, Twenty-second Wisconsin Infantry. Nathan Wertman, sergeant, Company G, Ninety-third Illinois Infantry. William Mitchell, Company K, Eleventh Iowa Infantry. Thomas Kennedy, naval ship, Springfield Fairview Cemetery. J. U. Young, Company B, Twenty-fourth Iowa. William H. Anderson, corporal, Company H, One Hundred Nineteenth Illinois Infantry. Henry Taylor, Company B, Thirty-ninth Iowa. Richard Wallace, Company F, Ninth Michigan Infantry. William Bacon, corporal, Company E, Eighth Iowa Infantry. J. C. Mason, corporal, Company A, Thirteenth Iowa Infantry. Charles Foster, Company K, Fourth Iowa Cavalry. J. I. Calwell, One Hundred Sixty-sixth Ohio Infantry.

#### Spanish-American War Veterans

LeRoy Darby, corporal, Company G, Fifty-first Iowa Infantry. A. L. Bales, Company K, Fifty-first Iowa Infantry. C. D. Letts, Company I, Fifth United States Infantry.

## THE LIVING VETERANS

The following are the names of some of the living veterans of the Civil war in Greenfield: J. C. Wood, Washington Carl, J. A. Patterson, Clark Chadwick, C. D. Knapp, Fred Cahou, S. N. Smith, Marion Young, J. J. Myers, Henry Booher, H. T. Wakefield, B. F. Childs, R. M. Quimm, William Gillham, J. Flemming, Joseph Gillett, Kier Elliott, M. S. Ray, Abram Gordon, J. F. James, J. M. Humphrey, J. C. Thompson, A. Phillips, J. I. Hillingsworth, S. F. Shirk, W. G. Bell, J. A. Evans, C. D. Sackett, P. A. Bivington, H. M. Foreman, George Bennett, H. A. Gilbert, J. L. Pearce, William McNay, H. C. Stuart, T. W. Brown, J. C. Lane, Austin Miller, D. D. Pettit, George Hanks, W. A. Hoskins, L. M. Kilburn, William Johnston, L. S. Gatch and A. J. Kingery.

Veterans living and buried in other towns of county may be found in the story of those localities.

## CHAPTER V

### PROGRESS OF EDUCATION

In regard to educational matters, Adair County has kept pace with the majority of the counties in the state, but yet has room for great improvement. The education in certain parts of the county is better managed and housed than in other parts, as, for instance, in Greenfield there is a handsome high school building, an account of which is given further along, while in Fontanelle there is a sad need of better quarters for school purposes. Just recently in the latter place the proposition to issue bonds for the erection of an adequately large school building was defeated by popular vote. It is reasonable to suppose, however, that not many years will pass before the whole of Adair County will be splendidly supplied with school facilities.

#### THE EARLY SCHOOLS

The first school in Fontanelle was held in the old courthouse in the year 1857 and was taught by Miss Hulda Lee. School District No. 2, which consisted of Sections 3, 4, 9 and 10, had a schoolhouse erected on the southeast quarter of Section 4 in 1882, costing about four hundred and sixty-five dollars, and Miss Minnie Patterson was the first teacher. There was a house of frame erected on Section 2 in 1883. Miss Ella May was the first teacher in this building. In Jackson Township the first schoolhouse was built on the farm of Alfred Jones on Section 3 and was a small frame building which was afterwards sold to Jones. The first officers of the district were Alfred Jones and Azariah Root. The first teacher was John Flanagan. In District 3 there was a school constructed in 1876 and Nettie Simmons, later Mrs. William Green, was the pioneer teacher. In District No. 5 the first school was put up in 1883 at an expense of \$480. The first teacher was Malinda Barnard. A large house was built on District No. 6 in 1872. Maggie Christie was the first teacher. In 1873 a schoolhouse was erected in District No. 7, costing



HIGH SCHOOL, FONTANELLE





\$450. Lydia Priddy, later Mrs. Charles Burrell, was the first teacher. A schoolhouse was built in 1882 in District No. 8 and George Pratt was the first instructor. District No. 9 had a schoolhouse erected in 1882 and the first teacher was Eva Sears.

In the Town of Fontanelle a schoolhouse was erected in 1881. This building stood on a hill in the southwest part of town. The contract price for this structure was \$10,400. The draft and design were the work of Corry & Loft of Sioux City, and J. B. Aldrich of Atlantic was the contractor. At the time the edifice was the finest in the county, but today it is not by any means and there is great necessity for increased accommodations for the children of the town.

The first school in Jefferson Township was taught by Simon Barrows during the winter of 1856-7 in a cabin which then stood on the farm of J. B. McGinnis on Section 35. The pioneer schoolhouse in the township was erected in 1858 by John Loucks at a cost of \$800. This was built on Section 27 and was later used as a house of worship by the Christian denomination. Judge Holaday and Stover Rinard laid the foundations and the latter shaved the shingles for the roof. The first teacher here was a man named William Crandall. The second teacher was a Miss Cady. The first school officers were the following named: John Easton, president; George B. Wilson, secretary; John Loucks, treasurer. These all served during the year 1857. A schoolhouse was constructed on the northeast corner of Section 11 in 1872 and the first teacher was Emma McPherson, afterwards Mrs. W. C. Pugh. The building cost \$700. The first teacher in the schoolhouse on Section 4 was W. B. Martin. In 1876 a building was erected on the northeast corner of Section 7. The first teacher was John Nunan. In the school which stood on the southeast corner of Section 18 the first teacher was Sue Holaday. In 1872 a school was built on the southeast corner of Section 14 and the first teacher was Sarah Sankurne. A school was erected in District No. 7 in 1869, in which J. S. Smith was the pioneer teacher. Another schoolhouse was erected on the northeast corner of Section 36 in October, 1878. The first teacher in this building was O. W. Baker. On the southeast corner of Section 28 a school was built in the late '70s and the first teacher was Thomas Neville. In 1875 a school was constructed on the northeast quarter of Section 31. Sylvester N. Crowell was the first teacher in this building. Prior to the building of this house school was held in the district and Mrs. Jennie Dutton was the first teacher. During the great wind storm of June, 1880, the schoolhouse in District No. 8 was blown down the hill

upon which it stood, a distance of about one hundred and twenty feet. The force of the wind turned the building half around and on its journey it came in contact with some burr-oak hitching posts which it broke clear with the ground. The chimney was destroyed and quite an amount of damage done to the building. The teacher's desk was turned over, but the side lamps upon the walls were not shaken from their brackets, nor broken. The stove was distributed all over the building. The coal house was torn to pieces and a piece of board with the staple and padlock was carried half a mile by the wind to the residence of John J. Payne, at that time director of the district.

In Summit Township the first school was taught in the summer of 1870 by E. M. Day, in a small building owned by himself on the farm of Azariah Sisson on Section 16. This school was in operation for three or four months. In the fall of the same year a schoolhouse was built on the northwest quarter of Section 17 and in this Mrs. L. Allard taught the first school in the winter of 1870. This building was afterwards moved from this location to the southeast quarter of Section 18. The first directors of this district were L. Albee, Azariah Sisson and Abner Sisson.

The second schoolhouse in the township was built on the northeast quarter of Section 21. It was erected in 1874.

The first school taught in Adair was held in the upper story of the D. W. Moss drug store in the winter of 1873-4. The teacher who held it for three months was Mrs. H. P. Starr and she had about eighteen scholars. The next term was at the schoolhouse in the summer of 1875. Mrs. Starr taught this school also, as she did in the summer of 1876, the latter year of which she had sixty-six pupils enrolled. The next teachers were L. M. Hawes and his daughter. The first officer in this district was John Chestnut, Sr.

The first schoolhouse in Washington Township was erected by volunteer labor in 1855 and was built of logs. This house was located on Section 9. The first term of school was taught by John J. Leeper. The first school taught in the township was at the residence of Thomas Johnson during the winter of 1851-2. This was also the first school taught in the county. The teacher was Dianthe Richardson, afterwards Mrs. Joshua E. Chapman.

The first school in Orient Township was taught in the cabin of Reuben Dillow in the summer of 1863 by Kate Sawyer of Nevinville. She also taught a school in 1864 at the same place, but in 1865 it was taught by a niece of Mr. Dillow. Old School District No. 1, which embraced all of sections 1, 2, 11 and 12 and the north quarters



EAST SCHOOL, FONTANELLE



of sections 13 and 14, had a schoolhouse built in the summer of 1875 at a cost of \$550. Ella Thatcher was the first teacher. District No. 2, including sections 3, 4, 9 and 10, had a building erected in the summer of 1883. Lettie Hamilton taught the first term here. A school was built on the southeast corner of Section 6 in 1872 and W. E. Caton was the pioneer teacher. Stanley Milner erected a schoolhouse upon the northeast corner of Section 19 in the summer of 1870. J. C. Hoffstatter constructed a building on the southeast corner of Section 30 in the summer of 1877. The first teacher in this district was Sylvia Hoffstatter. The same man built a school on the northwest corner of Section 34 in the summer of 1879. Callie Yeek was the first teacher. In the summer of 1878 Hoffstatter placed a school on the northwest corner of Section 36. In the summer of 1880 a school was built on the southeast corner of Section 14. J. C. Hoffstatter had the building contract. In the fall of 1880 a Miss Snodgrass taught the first term of school. The original District No. 9 included the Town of Orient. The first schoolhouse of this district was burned in March, 1872, and a new building was erected in the summer of 1873.

The first school in Lincoln Township was taught at the dwelling of Robert Ewers prior to the completion of a schoolhouse. Rebecca Macy was the teacher. The first schoolhouse in the township was commenced in 1862 and completed in 1863. A school was erected on the southwest corner of Section 3 in 1875 at the same time the district was organized then known as the Independent District. Previous to this organization a rough dwelling had been used. The first teacher was M. W. Haver. During the fall and winter of 1874 a school was erected on the northwest corner of Section 20. The first school held in this vicinity was taught in granary of James Birchard by Lydia Clifford. The next term was taught at the home of Charles Lockwood on Section 18 by the same teacher. William Reynolds was the director at the time.

Another school was built on the northwest corner of Section 24 in the fall of 1870. The first school in this district was held at the dwelling of Joseph Barnett in the winter of 1869 with M. W. Haver as teacher. In 1869 a schoolhouse was built on the southeast corner of Section 16. When the school was first erected this territory was a township district, and in 1870 two terms of school were taught by Etta Steavens. At that time the district was discontinued for lack of scholars and subdivided. A school was built on the southwest corner of Section 25 in the fall of 1868. In the winter of the same



year a term of two months was taught by Reno Stevens, for which he received \$90, there being five scholars in the class. On the southwest corner of Section 27 there was a house built in 1870. Prior to this, however, a term of school had been taught by Mrs. Stevens during the winter of 1869 in a small shed fitted up as a schoolroom on the east half of the northeast quarter of Section 28. The first teacher in the new school was Edward Morris. A school building was constructed in the fall of 1874 on the southwest corner of Section 29. Frank Gilpatrick taught the first term of school in the district in the winter of 1874-5.

The first teacher in Grove Township was a Mrs. Lank, nee Addie Lawson, who taught a term in a private house on Section 33 in 1862. She later moved to Guthrie County. The first school erected was on Section 4 in 1862. The first school directors of the township were Simon Byers and J. R. Pierce. The other early teachers in this township were: Myrtle Crawford, Mary Allen, Hannah Calkins, Mattie White and Julia Oliver.

The first school in Eureka Township was held in the residence of George W. Snyder in the summer of 1871, the class being taught by Emma Snyder Trowbridge, later Mrs. Fred H. Cears. There was at that time no school building in the township. The district was first organized in the summer of 1870 and the following officers elected: Orlando Howe, G. W. Snyder, Sr., and J. R. Patten, directors; W. R. Snyder, treasurer; A. Wright, secretary. School District No. 1, covering sections 1, 2, 11 and 12, had a schoolhouse built in 1875 and Clementine Yerkes was the pioneer teacher. Other first teachers of the township were: J. H. Crowley, Jennie Sargent, Stella Madison, Fred H. Cears, George Olmstead, James D. Law and May Faurote.

The first school in Richland Township was built in 1858. It cost \$400 and was 20 by 24 feet in size. The first teachers in the township were: Hulda Dorn, Lilly Moyer, Sarah Jewett, Eliza Arnold, Nellie Ray, Theresa Greene and Lue McClure.

Some of the first teachers in Walnut Township were: Mary Thompson of Winterset, George Pratt, William Armstrong, John D. Keeney, Sallie Rutt, Joseph Leshner, Annie Sheltins, Mary Duncan.

The first school taught in Harrison Township was in 1857 in a building erected for a storehouse on Section 34. The first schoolhouse was erected in 1860 on Section 34. The first teacher was a Mr. Carr, employed by the trustees of the township. Samuel W.

Pryor was the first director, being elected in 1859 or 1860. There was no county superintendent at that time. Some of the early teachers of the township were: Hattie Shober, Sally McCauley, Sally Myers, Cornelius Smith, Emma Rush, Leonard Beard, Maggie Ralston.

The first school building in Lee Township was a small structure erected in 1866 in the center of Section 16, 16 by 20 feet in dimensions. About a year following its erection it was removed to the northern line of Section 16, a distance of half a mile. There was no school taught in the building until the spring of 1869, when Eliza Wagner taught the first term, it being the first school taught in the township. During the year 1876 this building was bought by Wesley Rogers and removed to the Town of Greenfield, where it was used as a residence. A new building was erected in its place the same year. Some of the pioneer teachers of this township were: Eliza Wagner, Sadie Dew, W. F. Mason, Esther Ward, John Warner.

The first school teacher in Prussia Township was Jacob Sager. Others were: Miss Sackett, — Walker, Mary Campbell, Anna Shetters, Jennie Strauser, Miss Sergeant.

The first school in Union Township was taught by William Kivett in 1857 in a schoolhouse built the same year on Section 12.

#### 1915 SCHOOL STATISTICS

##### Independent City, Town and Village Districts

Adair has 1 male and 8 female teachers; an enrollment of 293 and a total average attendance of 245; there are 2 schoolhouses valued at \$34,000.

Greenfield has 1 male and 14 female teachers; 430 enrollment and 363 average attendance; 2 schoolhouses worth \$30,000.

Bridgewater has 1 male and 3 female teachers; 91 enrolled and 78 average attendance; 1 \$4,000 schoolhouse.

Fontanelle has 1 male and 8 female teachers; 227 enrolled and an average attendance of 187. There are 2 schoolhouses, valued at \$15,000.

Orient has 1 male and 6 female teachers; 166 enrolled and an average attendance of 127; 2 schoolhouses valued at \$16,000.

##### School Townships

Eureka: 1 male and 15 female teachers; 115 enrollment; 91 average attendance; 9 schoolhouses, value \$4,500.

Grand River: 2 male and 10 female teachers; 187 enrollment; 115 average attendance; 9 schoolhouses, value \$7,200.

Grove: 3 male and 14 female teachers; 182 enrollment; 114 average attendance; 9 schoolhouses, value \$45,000.

Harrison: 2 male and 14 female teachers; 194 enrollment; 127 average attendance; 9 schoolhouses, value \$3,700.

Jackson: 2 male and 14 female teachers; 158 enrolled; 108 average attendance; 9 schools worth \$2,850.

Jefferson: 1 male and 13 female teachers; 240 enrollment; 137 average attendance; 9 schoolhouses, valued at \$8,100.

Lee: 1 male and 11 female teachers; 111 enrolled; 22 average attendance; 7 schoolhouses, valued at \$5,178.

Orient: 10 female teachers; 114 enrollment; 90 average attendance; 8 schoolhouses, value \$4,000.

Prussia: 1 male and 16 female teachers; 153 enrollment; 122 average attendance; 9 schoolhouses, valued at \$42,000.

Richland: 1 male and 13 female teachers; 151 enrollment; 86 average attendance; 9 schoolhouses, value \$4,350.

Summerset: 12 female teachers; 140 enrollment; 84 average attendance; 8 schoolhouses, value \$3,600.

Summit: 1 male and 11 female teachers; 124 enrollment; 85 average attendance; 7 schoolhouses, value \$3,700.

Union: 1 male and 15 female teachers; 195 enrollment; 95 average attendance; 9 schools, valued at \$3,750.

Walnut: 15 female teachers; 194 enrollment; 174 average attendance.

Washington: 4 male and 13 female teachers; 181 enrollment; 104 average attendance; 9 schools, valued at \$3,250.

### Rural Independent Districts

Bailey: 1 female teacher; 7 enrollment; attendance 4; 1 school, worth \$1,000.

Harmony: 2 female teachers; 15 enrollment; 9 average attendance; 1 \$600 schoolhouse.

Lincoln Center: no teachers; 1 \$1,000 schoolhouse.

Mount Vernon: 1 female teacher; 12 enrolled; 8 average attendance; 1 \$600 schoolhouse.

North River: 2 male teachers; 20 enrolled; 16 average attendance; 1 \$1,000 schoolhouse.



ADAIR HIGH SCHOOL





Pleasant Hill: 1 female teacher; 13 enrolled; 9 average attendance; 1 \$900 schoolhouse.

Pleasant Ridge: 1 female teacher; 11 enrolled; 4 average attendance; 1 \$950 schoolhouse.

Prairie Queen: 3 female teachers; 17 enrolled; 8 average attendance; 1 \$300 schoolhouse.

Washington: 2 female teachers; 17 enrolled; 13 average attendance; 1 \$500 schoolhouse.

Summit Independent: 22 enrolled; 15 average attendance; 1 \$1,200 school.

Casey: 1 male and 9 female teachers; 473 enrolled; 395 average attendance; 4 schoolhouses, valued at \$48,000.

Stuart: 1 male and 7 female teachers; 222 enrolled; 193 average attendance; 1 \$8,000 schoolhouse.

### Total of All Schools

Twenty-six male and 261 female teachers. Enrollment of 4,105; average attendance of 3,219. Number of schoolhouses, 158; value, \$424,378.

### EDUCATIONAL

The first school taught in the Village of Greenfield was in the winter of 1859 in a room of the same old plank house which was used as a stage station by M. Clark. A. D. Littleton was the teacher of this pioneer school.

The first schoolhouse was erected in the summer of 1861 and in this the first teacher was A. L. McPherson. This building was used for school purposes for several years.

The old schoolhouse was built when the town was a sub-district of the District Township of Greenfield. On April 24, 1877, a petition was presented to the board of directors of the district, asking that sections 7, 8, 17, 18, 19 and 20 of Greenfield Township and 12 and 13 of Summerset be set off and formed into an independent district. This petition was signed by the following: A. J. Mears, T. A. Wilson, H. B. Rust, D. A. Coy, A. M. Hutchinson, J. W. Darby, John Burrell, Joseph S. Bartow, John Pegg, E. R. Olmstead, J. J. Myers, S. M. Shattuck, L. A. Smith, L. W. Devine, A. S. Carmichael, Charles Burrell, G. T. McConnell, M. F. Mills, L. S. Myers and Judson Morgan. In accordance with this petition the question was submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the district and

the election held at Dew's Hall on Saturday, March 10, 1877, and resulted in a vote of 42 to 9 for separate organization.

An election was held for the purpose of choosing the officers of the same on March 24, 1877, and the following were elected: S. M. Shattuck, president; A. R. Dew, secretary; D. Heaton, treasurer; S. C. Vance, John E. Hill, J. T. Harvey, A. Dwigans and J. G. Culver, directors. Dew being absent from the county, J. A. Hetherington was appointed clerk in his place.

By this time the school accommodations had become so cramped in the schoolhouse that rooms had to be rented in various parts of the town. Therefore, the directors ordered that the question of the district issuing bonds to the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of building a schoolhouse of larger capacity, be submitted to the people. Accordingly, at an election held May 23, 1877, by a vote of 40 to 10, the qualified electors ordered the issuance of the bonds.

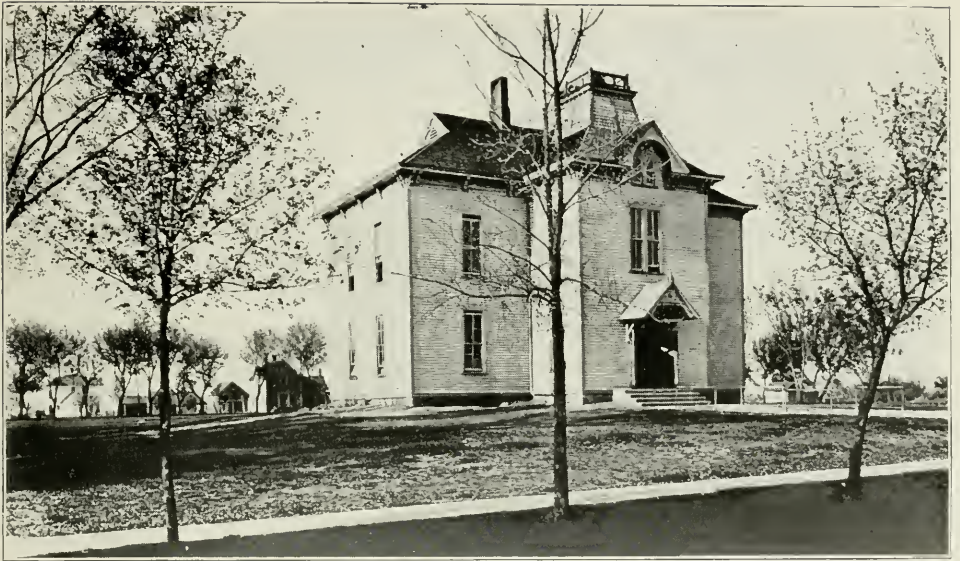
The schoolhouse on the south side of Greenfield was built during that summer. The contract for its erection was let to Stickel & Baldrick of Des Moines. The architect was W. K. Ball of Creston. The total cost of the building was \$5,230.

In the summer of 1883 another schoolhouse, costing \$6,000, was built on the north side of town.

At the first, as before mentioned, Greenfield was one of the sub-districts of Greenfield Township. The following is a list of teachers, with age of service: A. P. Littleton, 1859-60; Julia Taylor, 1860-1; A. L. McPherson, 1861-2; Sallie Valentine, 1862; S. C. Vance, 1862-3; Alice Lee, 1863; C. P. Gilbert, 1864-5; Mrs. Patterson, 1865-6; Doctor Edgington, 1866-7; Wesley Rodgers, 1867-8; Hattie Morris, 1868-9; Joseph McClain, 1869-70; H. J. Morgan, 1870-2; Hattie M. Leonard, 1872-3. From 1873 the schools required a principal. Dr. E. Spooner was the first. In the spring of 1877 the present independent district was organized. W. A. Pryor was the first principal. The history of the graded schools began with M. W. Haver. Principal C. E. Holland, 1882-4, completed the grading and graduated the first class.

#### GREENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

At a called meeting of the Greenfield Commercial Club held in the courtroom, March 19, 1906, the question of building a new \$25,000 schoolhouse was discussed at length. There was a good attendance of the club members as well as a number of other citizens. The meet-



NORTH SIDE SCHOOL, GREENFIELD



ing was presided over by O. A. Tuttle, one of the vice presidents of the club. The discussion of the question was entered into by members of the Commercial Club and others and members of the school board. The testimony of various men was all to the same effect, that the condition of the old schoolhouse was unsanitary and a menace to the lives of the pupils and teachers. J. J. Hetherington talked at some length against the proposition on the grounds of expense to the taxpayers and W. W. Witham made a few remarks along the same line, but aside from these two gentlemen the members present were in favor of the improvement. At the conclusion of the discussion F. B. Wilson offered the following motion which was unanimously carried: "Resolved, That it is the sense of the Greenfield Commercial Club that we are in favor of building a new schoolhouse at a cost not to exceed \$25,000."

In July, 1906, the school board let the contract for the erection of the proposed schoolhouse on the south ward school grounds. A number of bids were received on the work and upon opening the bids it was found that the firm of McLead & Son, of Cedar Rapids, has submitted the lowest figure for the work, \$16,700, so the contracts were accordingly awarded to this firm. The firm of W. R. Parsons & Son Company of Des Moines prepared the plans for the building on which the contracts were let. The architects made a blunder on the first set of plans they made, which called for a building which would have cost not less than \$35,000, and a delay of about thirty days was occasioned by the necessity of drawing a new set of plans.

The cornerstone of the new high school was laid on August 31, 1906, the ceremony of the laying being conducted by the Grand Lodge of Iowa, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. The orator of the day was Hon. Edmund Nichols of Perry.

#### A PICTURE OF EARLY SCHOOLS

Most of the business men and women of today can remember the district schools of forty years ago and how their early days were passed in the small cheerless schoolhouses of that time. Many of them were made of logs and in the center of the small room would be placed a large box-stove, capable of taking wood four feet in length. Most of the seats were made of long boards or of slabs with crossed legs for support. Several boards were placed end to end, one side was fastened to the wall and the whole, supported at an angle, was the writing desk for the big scholars while in front of these,



without desks or backs, were other seats for the smaller ones. When writing hour arrived the pupil was obliged to put his feet over the seat and turn around to get the benefit of his desk. There were two school terms, summer and winter, school ma'ams teaching in summer and the school masters in the winter, the former receiving about one dollar per week and the latter ten to twenty dollars per month and "board around." In some of the districts even these stingy salaries were paid in farm produce. An estimate of the amount of fuel to be used was made, and each patron would be required to draw a certain proportion of the wood. The boys were required to take turns in building the fires and in sweeping the schoolhouse. At nine o'clock the teacher would rap on the door-casing to call school. First in order was roll-call, then the first class in reading, then the second class, the third class and the A B C's. No classes were called in arithmetic but from all parts of the room would come the request, "Do my sum." The teacher was required to write all copies for those learning penmanship. Who among the pupils of that time does not remember the copies? "Kings and Queens eat pork and beans;" "Commandments ten God gave to men;" "A man of words and not of deeds is like a garden full of weeds;" "Many men of many minds," etc. Teachers were obliged to make all of the pens from goose-quills and during writing hour the snapping of pens on the desks and "Mend my pen!" might be heard frequently.

In those days Cobb's Readers, the English Readers and Hale's History were the principal reading books and counting aloud for the pauses—one for a comma, two for a semicolon, four for a period, etc.—gave a peculiar style of reading not popular at the present day. The Columbian Spelling Book with its wooden covers and Noah Webster's with its pictures of the boy stealing apples with the accompanying story of the owner trying grass and turf first, then stones, to induce him to come down; the fox and the sour grapes; the farmer and the lawyer in regard to the goring of the bull—these were the spelling books.

Peter Parley's Geography, with the lessons illustrated, the first one with the picture of a boy facing the sun, with his right hand pointing east and his left pointing west, this and Olney's Geography were the principal text books on the subject. In arithmetic, Dillworth, Adams and Dabol took the lead. Who cannot remember Dabol's

“Just fifteen yards of German serge  
For ninety dimes had I;  
How many yards of that same serge  
Would fourteen eagles buy?”

Also

“If to my age these added be  
One-half, one-third and three times three,  
Three score and ten the sum would be;  
What is my age? Pray tell it me.”

Examples in pounds, shillings and pence were given there also in single and in double positions.

In grammar, Lindley Murray's and Kirkham's were used, while the young orator of those days selected from the *Columbian Orator*, the *United States Speaker* and the *American Manual* and there were few boys who did not wax eloquent on Friday afternoons with *Hohenlinden*, *The Greek* and the *Turcoman*, *The Burial of Sir John Moore*, *Patrick Henry's Address*, *Pitt's Reply to Walpole*, etc.

In those days the beech and the birch rods were known by all the mischievous boys while standing on one foot and bending over to hold down a nail with one finger. Standing on tip-toe and reaching a nail-head on the wall, having a split goose-quill on the nose and a paper cap on the head, standing on guard, hair pulling, ear boxing, flogging, etc., were common punishments. Sitting with the girls was dreaded more than it is now.

Spelling schools, arithmetic schools and debating societies took the time of the long winter evenings, and going home with the girls made the evenings much longer and decidedly pleasanter.

## CHAPTER VI

### THE BENCH AND BAR OF ADAIR COUNTY

#### THE DISTRICT COURT

In October, 1855, the clerk of the District Court of Adair County received notice from E. H. Sears, district judge of the Sixth Judicial District of Iowa, appointing court to be held in Adair County November 19, 1855, also ordering that a grand jury be summoned for special term and a petit jury be also summoned, and that the clerk should issue a venire to the sheriff for each of the juries. This order was dated October 13th.

In accordance with this notice the court met at the residence of Azariah Root, in what was then Washington Township, on November 19th as specified. There were present E. H. Sears, judge; D. M. Valentine, clerk; and Abner Root, sheriff.

The first business transacted was the impaneling of a grand jury. When completed the following men were listed: Charles Friend, Alfred Jones, William Corr, James Roberts, James S. Ewing, John Ammon, James Ray, Abraham Rutt, Titus Sullivan, John Ireland, John Hillan, William Stinson, Manning Drake, William Thomas and Thomas Hodgson. John Ireland was appointed foreman.

It is said that this first grand jury retired to the cool shade of a straw-stack to consider the business in hand. The first case brought before the court was entitled State of Iowa vs. Larue Norris and was an indictment for larceny. The defendant was called to court, but failed to appear. In consequence, on motion of Boyd J. Stickel, the district attorney, the sureties of Larue Norris, namely William P. Norris and Marshall T. Norris, were declared to have their bond for his appearance forfeited.

The first civil case to come before the court bore the title of John Gilson vs. John Stevenson. This was an action for damages and was continued from this session to the March term, at which time it was stricken from the records by order of the judge.

Terms of the District Court were held twice during the following year, 1856, one beginning on March 30th and the other October 5th. The business at both of these terms was very light. At the first term there were present Judge Sears; Theodore Smith, clerk; and Abner Root, sheriff.

On October 5, 1857, the District Court was held at the courthouse in Fontanelle, with Judge Sears upon the bench. Cal Ballard was clerk and Levi C. Elliott was sheriff. There being no district attorney present the court appointed S. M. Tucker to act in that capacity. John H. Cooper, a licensed attorney of the state of Kentucky, sought and obtained permission to practice at the bar of this state. The most important case entered before this court session was a divorce proceeding, the first in Adair County. John Cears, by his attorneys, McPherson and Cummings, asked to be divorced from his wife, Phoebe Cears. The defendant failed to appear at the trial, so the court gave decision in favor of the plaintiff.

At the regular term of the court beginning March 29, 1858, upon the application of Henry Kinsinger and Christian Augustine, Judge Sears granted them the necessary papers, and they being duly sworn, became citizens of the United States. These were the first naturalization papers granted in Adair County. In the case of Munger & Brother vs. William Schweer, the first petit jury was impaneled in this county. It consisted of the following men: B. J. Stickel, foreman; E. B. Sullivan, James P. Kenny, James Murphy, Thomas M. Johnson, Andros Jenkins, Jeremiah Rinard, Fielding Key, W. H. Easton, John Murphy, S. W. Pryor and J. P. Salmon.

E. H. Sears remained judge of the District Court until the spring of 1859, when he was succeeded by J. H. Gray. The first term of court held in Adair County by the latter commenced upon April 25, 1859, when there were present besides the judge, W. B. Hall, clerk; Levi C. Elliott, sheriff; and P. Gad Bryan, district attorney. Judge Gray held the regular terms of court until October 14, 1865, when he died. He was remembered as one of the most efficient judges of the early times and a man of great business acumen. The vacancy caused by his demise was filled by the appointment of C. C. Nourse, by the governor, and on April 9, 1866, he held a regular term of the District Court in this county. This was the only time he held the court here as he resigned his office on August 1, 1866. Hugh W. Maxwell was elected to the office of district judge at the fall election of 1866 and was re-elected in 1870, occupying the bench for a period of eight years. He was succeeded by John Leonard. In the



year 1886 Adair County became part of a circuit, on which three judges were elected to serve in the different counties. At this time the Circuit Court as a part of Adair County became a thing of the past. O. B. Ayers, A. W. Wilkinson and J. H. Henderson composed the first triumvirate of judges chosen for the circuit of which this county was a part. In 1891 J. H. Applegate took the place of Ayers. John A. Storey was on the bench in the year 1896. James D. Gamble came in about 1896 also. Edmund Nichols came to the bench about 1902. The judges now serving on the bench are J. H. Applegate, L. N. Hays and W. H. Fahey. They were chosen in 1914. Adair County is in the Fifth Judicial District of Iowa for the year 1915, this district being composed of the following counties: Adair, Marion, Warren, Madison, Dallas, Guthrie.

John Leonard served only one term and was defeated for re-election by W. H. McHenry, who served two terms, 1868-76. John A. Storey served as district judge part of one year by appointment of the governor, to fill a vacancy. He afterward removed to Omaha, where he had a successful law practice for some years and then bought a large interest in a national bank of Indianola, where he still resides.

#### THE CIRCUIT COURT

By the year 1868 the business of the District Court had grown to such an extent that it was nearly impossible for that court to attend to all of it. Accordingly in the year mentioned the Iowa General Assembly passed a law creating a new tribunal, which went under the name of Circuit Court. This newly created court was given the power to try all cases of appeal from justices, mayors and other inferior courts, all civil cases of a certain character, and have general supervision and control of all probate matters. By the law it came into existence on the first Monday in January, 1869, commencing on the 4th of that month. Frederick W. Mott, the first judge, was elected in the fall of 1868.

The first case heard in this court in Adair County was a law case entitled W. C. Warner vs. Charles Galbraith. Kilburn & Grass appeared as attorneys for the plaintiff, and J. H. Bailey for the defendant. A jury was called to try the case, composed of the following men: O. E. Brown, E. R. Paris, J. Noah, John Easton, J. H. Standley, Daniel Smith, Jacob Bally, Gorton Shanklin, T. M. Ewing and Samuel Thompson. After hearing the evidence in the case they retired under the charge of Bailiff M. E. Black, and after deliberation, returned to the court with a verdict for the defendant.



In 1872 John Mitchell was elected to the office of circuit judge and in 1876 was re-elected. During his term of office the second circuit was created by an act of the General Assembly and Adair, with other counties, placed therein. This was at once organized and S. A. Calvert appointed to the vacant judgeship, and at the next general election was elected to the office and was re-elected in 1880. In 1884 Calvert was again elected and served until the abolishment of the office in 1886. He was the last to fill this position in Adair County.

#### THE COUNTY COURT

By an act of the General Assembly of Iowa in 1851 courts were established in each county in the state which were at the time organized and also provided for the institution of the court in every county thereafter organized. The county judge, the head of this court, took the position of the county commissioners and the probate judge, both of which offices were abolished. The court was composed of the judge, clerk, prosecuting attorney, and sheriff, and it was given all the jurisdiction and power now in the hands of the board of supervisors, auditor, clerk of the courts, and the probate branch of the business of the Circuit Court.

The first probate matter on record in this county is noted in the minute book of the County Court. This was on November 17, 1857, when at a session of the court, presided over by D. M. Valentine, acting county judge, the following case came up for consideration: James P. Jordan had died on October 12, 1857, without making a will, nor having done anything about the administration of his estate. His widow did not appear to claim the executorship and Josiah P. Clark, his next of kin, appeared and asked the court to appoint him as executor. After hearing his request the court appointed him to settle the estate of the deceased.

The first to occupy the position of county judge was G. M. Holaday, who was elected to that office at the time of the organization of the county in April, 1854. He served in this capacity for one year. He settled in Jefferson Township in 1853, locating upon section 26. He was from the State of Indiana. He, while acting as county judge, with D. M. Valentine, county surveyor, and Abram Rutt, laid out the Town of Fontanelle for the county. In the fall of 1856 he left here for Des Moines, in order to educate his children. He deserted his wife and children there and left the country with another woman, presumably going to the western coast.

J. J. Leeper was the successor of Judge Holaday, being elected in the spring of 1855. He served for two years. He came here from near Zanesville, Ohio, in 1854, and settled in Jackson Township on section 34, where he lived for two years. He then removed to Washington Township and in 1865 removed to Afton, Union County. He later removed to New Mexico.

At the August election of 1857 Manning Drake was elected to the position of county judge by a majority of eleven votes. However, he failed to qualify and D. M. Valentine, then prosecuting attorney, acted as county judge until the election of 1858. Valentine was the second settler in the Village of Fontanelle. He came to that place in the summer of 1855. He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, June 18, 1830. After removing to West Point, Tippecanoe County, Ind., with his parents, in 1836, and to Wea Plains in 1837, staying in the latter place until 1854, he removed to Winterset, Ia., and from thence to this county. He was admitted to the bar at Winterset. In 1859 he left Adair County and went to Leavenworth, Kan., and in 1860 to Franklin County, in the same state. Here he remained until 1875, when he went to Topeka. He was elected judge of a district court in Kansas and also served as a member of the Legislature in Kansas from Franklin County in 1862. He also served as state senator from the same district in 1863-4. He later was associate justice of the Supreme Court of Kansas. He was married August 26, 1855, to Martha Root of Adair County.

F. M. Corr was elected judge of the County Court in 1858 and was re-elected in 1859, serving until 1861. He was born and reared in Monroe County, Indiana, and came to Adair County in October, 1855, making his settlement in Washington Township. There he resided until 1858, when he removed to Fontanelle, having been elected county treasurer. He resigned this position to accept the position of county judge which he filled until the first of 1862. He shortly afterward removed to Clark County, Iowa, and from there to Pocahontas County, Iowa. At one time he taught school in Washington Township.

Azariah Root was the next to fill the position of county judge, being elected to the office on October 8, 1861. At this time a large part of the power of the office had been given to the newly created board of supervisors. Mr. Root was re-elected in 1863 and served until 1864. He was a native of Pittsfield, Mass., and was born there in 1791. His father, whose name was also Azariah, was the descendant of an old French family, a connection of Racine, and served in

the Continental Army under George Washington, and was present at the hanging of Major Andre, the British spy, and died at the age of ninety-eight years. His mother was Ellen Barbour, of Scotch descent. When Azariah was about twelve years of age his parents moved to Ohio, where he grew to manhood. He was a volunteer under General William Henry Harrison in his campaigns against the Indian allies of England in the War of 1812 to 1815. In 1839 Mr. Root moved to Wyandotte, Ohio, and lived there until 1852, when he emigrated to Madison County, Iowa. In the spring following he came to Adair County and settled upon section 11 in Jackson Township. He then moved to section 12 and later to Fontanelle. He was postmaster during the war and died in the town in 1874 at the age of eighty-three. He was married in Ohio in 1824 to Myra Case and to them were born nine children, namely: Abner, Clarissa, Amanda, Elizabeth, Ellen, Parthenia, Martha Eby, Sarah and Myra. Mr. Root's wife died in the winter of 1860 at Fontanelle and is buried with her husband in the cemetery in Jackson Township.

On the resignation of Azariah Root from this office the board of supervisors appointed W. H. Brainard to fill the vacancy. He took the position in July, 1864, and held it until the first of the following year.

At the election of 1864 R. F. Murphy was elected to the office, but refusing to qualify, the board of supervisors appointed James C. Gibbs to fill the vacancy. In June, 1865, Mr. Gibbs resigned the position and the board appointed R. E. Ewing to succeed him. At the election of 1865 Ewing was elected, but on January 16, 1866, he resigned the position and was succeeded by J. J. Hetherington, who was also appointed by the board. In the autumn of 1866 Hetherington was duly elected to the same office and served until January 1, 1868, when he was succeeded by N. S. Taylor. N. S. Taylor was the last county judge of Adair County. During his term the office was abolished by the General Assembly of the state, but the party holding that position at the time of the change was made ex-officio county auditor.

#### IMPORTANT CRIMINAL CASES

There have been many crimes committed in Adair County, but very few of them are of enough importance to deserve lengthy notice. The train robbery which occurred in this county and was supposed to have been the work of the famous Jesse James gang of robbers was one of the important. This is narrated in another part of this

volume. Another of the early crimes worthy of note was the murder of Henry D. Vandewater by Philip Augustine. In the District Court which met on the 11th of February, 1873, and held until the 19th of the same month, this case came up for trial and occupied nearly the entire session. The evidence introduced in the trial established the deed to have occurred in the following manner: Henry D. Vandewater, the victim, was notorious as a "bad man," one who toted a gun and was continually looking for trouble. Augustine was a brother-in-law of Vandewater and it is said was in continual fear of him. In March, 1872, a family quarrel arose and Vandewater picked Augustine as the particular mark of his venom. At one time he followed Augustine into the latter's house and wanted to fight, backed by his brother. He picked up a stick and started to assault Augustine. The aged father, however, interfered with the attacking party, seized a butcher knife, and informed Vandewater that he would kill him if he attacked Augustine. This caused the assailant to retreat. He then took to annoying his brother-in-law in every possible way, dogging his cattle, and on the evening before his death, when passing the house, while Mrs. Augustine was driving in a flock of sheep, set his dog upon them. At her remonstrance he grabbed a stick and drove her into the yard, saying at the same time that he would thrash her out of her and kick her so that she could not stand up. Shortly before this, while Vandewater was engaged in the attempt to set fire to Augustine's fences about harvest time, and being remonstrated with by the owner, he drew a revolver and drove him into the house. On the day before the crime was committed he had threatened a little boy of Augustine's, who was herding stock, with cutting his throat.

On the morning of his death he rode over to Augustine's house to see him about some disputed grass, making threats that he would kill him before he would let him have it, although it had been given Augustine by his father. He rode up to the low fence before Augustine's house, and setting sideways on his horse, faced the latter. Augustine asked why he had dogged his cattle and was answered that he would dog them whenever he pleased and that Augustine could not help himself. The latter said that he could help himself. Whereupon Vandewater replied, "If you have anything that will shoot faster than I have, bring it out." With this he half drew his revolver from his hip pocket. Augustine then warmed him away from the premises and started toward the house. He reached into the door, grasped his Enfield rifle, leveled it, and killed Vandewater



with the bullet. He was shortly afterwards arrested and lodged in jail. The attorneys for the state at the trial were: General Given, the district attorney, Bailey & Grass, and J. C. Naylor. The defendant had the services of Leonard & Mott, Gow Brothers and Col. James Rany. The jury in this celebrated case was composed of the following men: S. C. Vance, A. L. Harrison, W. H. Aspinwall, J. Sias, L. C. Elliott, James Peters, E. L. Drake, A. J. Mears, William Rivenburgh, O. D. Foote, W. M. Stowell and J. L. Vert. The jury, after hearing the evidence in the case, convicted Augustine of second degree murder and the defendant was sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of ten years, the lightest sentence which the law permitted for the offense.

Augustine went to Fort Madison, Ia., to serve his sentence. However, as public sentiment was entirely upon his side, a petition for pardon, headed by the names of the judge, district attorney and all the jury, was circulated, and obtaining the requisite number of names, was forwarded to the governor of the state. The governor immediately pardoned Philip Augustine. This pardon was issued six or eight years after Augustine was sentenced, just before the expiration of his term.

#### THE MENTGER MURDER

In March, 1894, occurred the murder of Myer Mentger at Fontanelle by D. C. Clayman, whose reputed home was in Des Moines. Mentger was a merchant in the Town of Fontanelle and Clayman was an unwelcome suitor of Ida Mentger, a daughter, who was also a helper in the store. Clayman procured a revolver and entered the store just at evening. He fired his first bullet at Ida Mentger, wounding her in the arm, then turned the revolver upon himself, inflicting a slight head wound. Mr. Mentger came from the rear of the store and attempted to wrest the revolver from Clayman when he was shot in the abdomen. He died in a very short time. Clayman was tried a month later and was convicted of murder in the second degree and sentenced to fifteen years in the penitentiary. He served his full time.

#### THE BAR

The Adair County Bar has ever been a reputable one. Lawyers who have practiced their calling in this county have, with possibly a few exceptions, been of high class and of recognized ability and



integrity. There has not been so many of the practitioners here as in larger counties, but there has been a sufficient number to keep the legal wheels of the county running smoothly.

The first lawyer to come to Adair County was W. H. Brainard. He came to Fontanelle in the spring of 1858. He was elected recorder in the year 1864 and served until 1866. He later removed to Hopkins, Mo.

In the fall of 1858 James C. Gibbs and D. M. Valentine were both admitted to the state bar at Winterset and were the next of the profession to come to Adair County.

J. J. Cooper, an attorney, came to Adair County during the winter of 1857-8 and located at Fontanelle. He was a first class lawyer and came from Lexington, Ky., where he had studied his profession with John C. Breckinridge. He was a native of Pennsylvania. After a few years' residence in Adair County he went to Winterset.

G. F. Kilburn, an attorney, came to Fontanelle about the year 1858 and entered into the practice. His principal business was in the way of real estate sales and collections. He moved to Creston afterwards where he died in 1883.

S. W. Armstrong came to this county in 1858. He filled the position of county treasurer at one time.

Waldo Adams read law here in the office of G. F. Kilburn and, upon his admission to the bar, went into partnership with the same. He afterwards removed to Creston with Mr. Kilburn.

T. W. Neville practiced law in Greenfield for about three years, coming here in 1869.

M. M. Rutt practiced law in the Town of Fontanelle, beginning about 1871. He built up quite a large practice here. He later operated a lumber yard at Atlantic, Cass County, and later removed to Salt Lake City, Utah.

James Naylor was admitted to the bar at Fontanelle in 1870 and practiced until 1875, when he left. He was a man of dissipated habits. He later forsook the law for newspaper work in Dakota.

James Rany practiced law at Fontanelle in connection with various other lines of business. He was admitted to the bar in 1870 and in 1873 to the United States bar. He discontinued the practice in 1875 and entered other business pursuits.

J. C. McDermot, an attorney, came from Pennsylvania and located in Greenfield during the year 1875 and engaged in the practice. He was a good lawyer and of good reputation. He remained

in the place until 1878 when he moved to Kansas, where he continued the practice of his profession.

J. C. Naylor came to Greenfield from Warren County about 1876. He afterwards moved to Creston and also from that place to whereabouts unknown.

About the same time George Seevers came from Winterset and began practice, but not meeting with much success he returned to Winterset.

John A. Storey came to Greenfield in 1875 and began practice. Afterward removed to Fontanelle and went into partnership with H. Grass. He was a very successful attorney, representative for Adair County, later a judge of the District Court, a prominent attorney at Omaha, Neb., to which place he moved, and now president of a national bank at Indianola, Ia.

H. Grass came to Fontanelle in the year 1869 from Albany, Richland County, Ill. He had served six years in the State Senate of Illinois, was a soldier in the Black Hawk war, and was at the capture of Black Hawk when he made his last fatal stand on the Bad Axe in Wisconsin. He later moved to Corpus Christi, Tex., and now lives at Alvin, near Galveston.

John M. Moore, an early attorney in Adair County, was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., on May 26, 1836. He came Adair County in January, 1878.

H. B. Young came to this county in April, 1880, and in 1883 began practice at Fontanelle.

Harry E. Don Carlos came to Greenfield in 1883 and entered into a law partnership with D. W. Church, which continued until May, 1884. He then practiced alone.

James E. Andrews began practice here in 1881.

Daniel W. Church was admitted to the bar in 1875 in Greenfield, Ind. He came to Adair County, Ia., in the same year. At the time of his coming he was the oldest attorney at the county seat.

A. L. Hager came to Greenfield in November of the year 1875 and engaged in practice with his brother, C. E. Hager, and J. A. Storey. In 1877 the firm became A. L. Hager & J. A. Storey and in 1881 became Gow & Hager. George L. Gow came to Fontanelle in 1870 and engaged in practice with his brother.

John G. Culver came to Fontanelle in 1873 and taught school for two years and then commenced the study of law. He was admitted to the bar at Greenfield in 1879.

John W. McCormick first went to Fontanelle to practice and in August, 1882, came to Greenfield.

F. M. Brown came to Greenfield in 1874 after having been admitted to the bar in Clinton County, this state.

Robert Mickey came to Greenfield in the fall of 1881 and at once entered upon the practice of law.

Fred O. Hinkson began the law and real estate business here in September, 1883.

William S. Wishard began practice here in 1880, having received his legal education in Des Moines and Iowa City.

#### THE PRESENT BAR

The resident members of the Adair County Bar are: D. W. Church, H. J. Chapman, Frank B. Wilson, George D. Musmaker, J. C. Hoyt, D. A. Crowley, of Greenfield; Clarence Williamson, O. W. Witham, also of Greenfield; George B. Lynch, F. E. Gates, S. B. Gwin and Harry D. Byers, of Adair; Charles T. Launder and E. W. Adams, of Fontanelle. The practicing non-resident members of the bar are: F. O. Hinkson, Carl P. Knox, R. H. Dosh, P. L. Sever, O. W. Morgan and Roy Knox of Stuart; C. E. Berry and A. M. Fagan of Casey.

## CHAPTER VII

### THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

There is no profession, no trade, no enterprise, which did not have a beginning in darkness; there is no effort to which the forces and energies of mankind have been directed but that did not first combat the obscurity of ignorance, pardonable ignorance, it is true.

In this enlightened age of medical science one regards the early doctor as a person with little knowledge of the profession, one who applied the home remedies of calomel, castor oil and blue pill with the abandon of a solicitous grandmother and one who wielded the lancet with artistic indiscrimination. However one regards the early physician, there must be taken into account the times in which he worked, in other words the knowledge of medicine and surgery which then existed in the world. Secondly, there are the physical conditions under which the early doctor worked. Thirdly, there was distinct character of disease among the early settlers, and, lastly, the remedies with which the doctor had to work were scarce and many times not the best antidote for the ailment.

In the matter of world knowledge of medicine at that time it can safely be said that little or nothing was known in comparison with the present status of the science. In fact, medicine has made more rapid strides in the past decade than in the past century. In the early days of this state and county the doctors had strong faith in the use of the lancet, believing that by letting a copious amount of blood from the patient, the object of which was to destroy the tene-ment of the disease, a cure could be effected. Then there was the Spanish fly blister which was applied for all sorts of ills; there were calomel and blue pills as the universal internal remedies. During the convalescent period of the patient's disease, if such a period were ever reached, gamboge, castor oil and senna were administered in generous portions to work out of the system the effects of the first course of treatment.



It would be difficult to describe in limited space just how far the step has been taken from those early theories to the present day theories. A glance at the daily newspapers and magazines will invariably prove by concrete instance the wonderful cures being effected today, both in medicine and surgery. Operations upon the heart, upon the brain, upon the other delicate and vital organs of the body are becoming of daily occurrence, whereas a quarter century ago they would have been ridiculed. The day of serums has arrived and the disease is thus throttled in its inception. The present-day doctor assists nature to repair the break and is a man of thought and initiative.

The physical conditions under which the early doctor worked is another point in his favor. There were no roads, bridges and in many places there was not even a marked path of travel. His trips were made on horseback through intense blizzards, soaking rains, bitter cold and in the face of the high winds which swept across the prairie. Oftentimes his sleep was snatched while in the saddle. In reward for this torturous service he received a very meagre fee and the fact is known today that in the majority of cases he received nothing, for the settlers as a class were too poor to pay for his aid. Then again, he would receive his fee in potatoes, apples, flour or whatever commodity the settler could most conveniently give him.

The diseases common to the early settlers were distinctive. The rough life they led and the exposures they endured did not permit entrance to the many ills and pains attendant upon civilization and large urban communities. Fevers and ague, with an occasional stomach ache, were nearly all the ills they bore. Accidents there were which required the use of splints of wood and bandages and also the early doctor needed a good knowledge of obstetrics, although the latter skill was not always called into use. The hardy pioneer mother many times endured the birth of her child without assistance. When sickness broke in the family the doctor was called if within distance, but if not, the stock of simple remedies in every cabin was put to use. If it were nothing more than a cold among the children the application of hot lard or bacon rind and the internal use of quinine or onion juice completed the treatment. Sweet powders were also taken.

#### FIRST PHYSICIANS

In the year 1857 there was a physician named Hinkle who came to this county from Decatur County and located at Fontanelle. He



was a Mormon preacher and it is said that he had two wives with him. He was an eclectic practitioner, also ran a small general store for a time. In the fall of 1858 he returned to Decatur County and there died.

Dr. Nelson Bates came to Fontanelle on August 1, 1866, from Lewis County, N. Y. He was known as a good doctor and built up a good patronage. He was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., in 1813.

The first physician to locate in Greenfield was a Doctor Edinton, who came here in 1864. He had a very poor reputation while here. He taught the school for one term, but his drinking habits compelled him to give this up. He shortly left the county.

Dr. Arthur R. Brackett and Dr. Charles E. Stoner also practiced in Greenfield for a time. Dr. E. Spooner was another prominent physician of the early days and also served as postmaster at Greenfield.

Dr. F. M. Culverson came to Greenfield in the spring of 1880 and entered the practice of his profession. Dr. John E. Howe came to Greenfield in August, 1875. Dr. A. W. Vaughn, a native of Rock Island, Ill., began his work in Adair County in 1881. Hamlin V. Monnett moved to Fontanelle in 1881 and began his duty here under great handicap, but persevered and soon built up a good practice. Dr. Peter McDermid came to Fontanelle in the early '70s, purchased a large drug store, pursuing this business in connection with his medical practice.

Dr. T. M. Moore began practice at Fontanelle in 1856 or 1857. Dr. Calvin B. Scott commenced his work in Fontanelle in 1879.

The first physician in the Town of Adair was Dr. T. D. Lougher. He settled here in March, 1875. Fayette Parsons, another early physician of Adair, came in 1877, settling on eighty acres in Summit Township until 1880, when he went to Adair.

#### ADAIR COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

On December 17, 1903, the Adair County Medical Association was organized at Greenfield, composed of most of the doctors in the county. This organization is affiliated with the state association by rule of the latter which considers the county association the unit of their own organization. There are ten members of the Adair County organization, namely: Drs. J. E. Howe, J. A. Harper, James Macrae, F. B. Culverson, P. McDermid, Ira Gibson, Eugene Tinsman, A. S. Bowers, R. R. Chapman and Preston Powell. The latter is

a resident of Adair and is the only doctor in the northern part of the county who is a member, owing to the inaccessibility of the northern towns to the remainder of the county. A regular meeting is held on the second Thursday in December of every year and a call meeting is generally held in June.

#### REGISTER OF DOCTORS

The following list is of the physicians who have registered at the clerk's office in Adair County since the beginning: E. H. Adams, 1897; E. L. Asbell, 1899; M. I. Adams, 1914; J. H. Baker, 1895; G. A. Broady, 1899; Martin Bower, 1901; Elmer Babcock, 1901; A. S. Bowers, 1903; George Brooks, dentist, 1906; F. P. Culverson, 1887; H. L. Coleman, 1891; R. R. Chapman, 1894; W. W. Claybaugh, 1896; F. J. Correll, 1911; G. W. Deemer, 1894; S. O. Davis, 1895; F. T. Dewitt, 1902; D. T. E. Kirkpatrick, 1903; E. J. Everett, 1899; P. W. Flickinger, 1906; J. E. Howe, 1886; E. B. Hicks, 1888; J. R. Hughes, 1893; J. A. Harper, Jr., 1896; W. L. Hummer, 1905; Edwin J. Higgins, 1910; H. H. Hunt, 1913; J. W. Johnston, 1899; M. E. Johnson, 1899; Charles D. Knapp, 1887; J. F. Kempker, 1893; W. K. Keith, 1894; J. W. Kelly, 1898; H. G. Lynch, 1887; T. D. Lougher, 1887; C. P. Liegerot, 1901; T. W. Mielhem, 1886; H. P. Monnette, 1886; P. McDermid, 1887; S. Mosher, Sr., 1894; C. O. Maloney, 1895; R. P. Miller, 1896; Pierre McDermid, 1898; C. A. Miller, 1902; J. H. Maynard, 1906; J. G. Macrae, 1912; S. D. Packwood, 1896; Preston Powell, 1899; A. A. Potterf, 1901; Leslie W. Scott, 1888; M. M. Schener, 1888; F. E. Sampson, 1891; F. A. Saum, 1891; A. J. Scofield, 1893; A. B. Shideler, 1904; Hartford Sweet, 1905; S. A. Sammons, 1905; J. R. Shike, 1911; I. F. Trumbull, 1887; J. Thompson, 1889; G. E. Thweatt, 1894; W. E. Turner, 1896; Eugene Tinsman, 1903; Samuel G. Wishard, 1887; H. A. Weirick, 1889; A. H. Warren, 1891; G. W. Weddell, 1906; H. H. Woodward, 1908; E. W. Wilson, 1910; C. N. White, 1915; D. S. Ziegler, 1899; A. Zook, 1906.

## CHAPTER VIII

### HISTORY OF THE CHURCHES

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL

For the early history of the church the best authority is an article written in the '80s by Rev. J. A. Wilson. This story is as follows:

In 1858, when the population of the county was but 624, in the midst of a winter which was unparalleled for its cold and snow, Rev. J. M. Rust came from Lewis, Cass County, and preached the first sermon ever delivered in Greenfield. The place where the services were held was the house of S. K. Mallory and the congregation but a handful of worshipers. Reverend Rust was a graduate of the University of Virginia and died at Vermillion, Dakota Territory, in the winter of 1869 from exposure in attending a quarterly meeting.

During the summer of 1859 Reverend Hulbert, who was traveling the Quiney circuit in Adams County, came over and preached several sermons in Greenfield. On one of these occasions he organized the first class, composed of the following ten persons: S. K. Mallory, leader; Samantha Mallory, Hugh W. Wilson, Sarah A. Wilson, Seth Wilson, Emily A. Wilson, Martha Wilson, E. V. Myers, Samuel C. Vance and J. S. Rich. This little band of worshipers maintained regular services at the house of S. K. Mallory, or at the house of Hugh Wilson, which stood just west of where the United Presbyterian Church later stood. Rev. Samuel Osborn, a local preacher, labored quite regularly for the little society.

The work as organized by Mr. Todd was named Adair Mission and was composed of the following preaching appointments: Greenfield, Fontanelle, Roots, Wahtawah, Salem, Manchester, Nevinville and Middle River. The charge thus formed was placed in the Council Bluffs district, Rev. I. I. Stewart, presiding elder. The first quarterly meeting was held in Greenfield on December 17, 1859, Rev. I. I. Stewart presiding; Rev. J. W. Todd, pastor; official members, Samuel Osborn, William Shoemaker, S. K. Mallory and John

Easton. At this meeting a committee, composed of the pastor, William Shoemaker and John Easton, was appointed to secure lots for a church and parsonage in Greenfield. There is no record that they ever made a report, but from incidental facts it is inferred that they secured the lots now owned by the church in Greenfield, as it appears that at the third quarterly meeting, an agreement had been made with one Bennett Sparks to erect a parsonage, which agreement was afterward cancelled and the enterprise abandoned.

In 1860 Rev. Arthur Badley was chosen as the presiding elder and Reverend Levan was appointed in charge of the circuit. As Levan received only \$13.46 as his salary for the first quarter, he left the charge, and was compelled to refund \$6 of the small salary. Samuel Osborn was then employed by the presiding elder to supply the charge temporarily, which he held until March, 1861, when N. H. Phillips was employed to serve out the year. At a meeting of the board of trustees held in Greenfield May 4, 1861, Samuel C. Vance was chosen trustee to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Reverend Todd and held that official position for some years. Brother Phillips was successful in pushing forward the completion of the parsonage. This historic building was 18 by 24 feet in size and 1½ stories high. The carpenter work was done by W. T. Baggs of Greenfield, and he received 10,000 of lumber for his pay.

Mr. Phillips, who was a local preacher, reported two Sunday schools this year, with thirteen officers and teachers and thirty-four scholars, which is the first mention of this nursery of the church in this denomination.

In 1861 and 1862 the Adair Mission was a part of the Lewis district, with Rev. Arthur Badley as presiding elder. Rev. S. W. Milligan was the minister in charge. The appointments were Greenfield, Fontanelle, Salem, Wahtawah and Manchester. The first quarterly conference was held at Greenfield September 27, 1861, when the following members were present: J. S. Rich, Samuel Osborn, S. K. Mallory, John Easton, Phillip Osborn and Hugh Wilson. The receipts for the year, including a missionary appropriation of \$75, was only \$135.45 for presiding elder and pastor.

The annual conference for the year 1862 sent Rev. James Lisle as pastor of the Adair Mission. The first quarterly meeting was held at the house of Samuel Osborn on September 26th. Reverend Lisle organized the first class at Fontanelle during his pastorate in 1862, which class consisted of the following members: Ozias Gibbs,



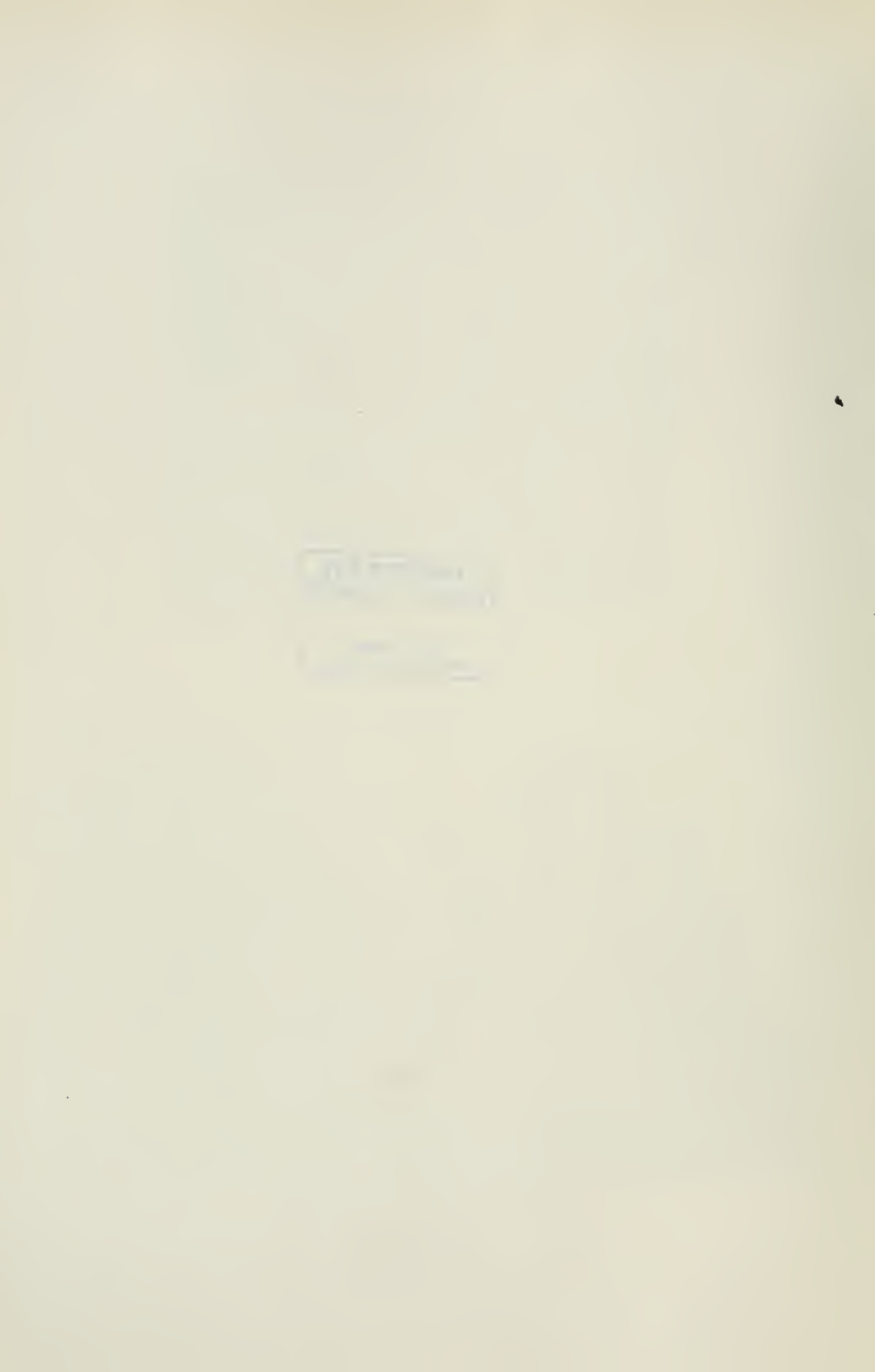


METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GREENFIELD



CHRISTIAN CHURCH, GREENFIELD





Sally Gibbs, Emily Wilson, Seth Wilson, Martha Root, Maria Snell, Norman Norton, Alvina Norton, Lemuel Lewis and Amanda Lewis.

In the fall of 1863 Rev. W. W. Mallory was sent to the Adair Mission. The first quarterly meeting was held at Greenfield on December 26th in the schoolhouse, the first time that it is recorded that meetings were held any place else but in private homes, or groves.

At the third quarterly meeting the names of S. Wilson and J. Q. Violet appear as members thereof, and J. W. McPherson was granted a license to preach. At the fourth quarterly meeting held at the Salem schoolhouse Alexander Easton was also granted a preaching license.

Reverend Mallory organized the Webster class which was formerly known as that of Manchester, with the following members: E. Edmonds, O. Raymond, Henry Raymond, Seth Pryor and Jane Davis. During the year the following were added, making thirteen members: Sarah Pryor, Lydia Davis, Sarah Witt, Ellen McEferly, Patience Hadley, Elizabeth Etten, Mrs. Bunce and Mrs. Dennis Drake.

During the following year Adair Mission was made a part of the Winterset district and the place of pastor left to be supplied. Rev. P. F. Brazee, the presiding elder, appointed Samuel Osborn to this duty, which he performed, although with but meagre results, but the state of the public mind during those war days accounted for that. Nothing of interest transpired during the year.

The annual conference of 1865 sent Rev. E. R. Rafter as pastor of the Adair Mission, but he remained but a very short time. Rev. J. E. Darby, a local preacher, was then employed. In his visits to Fontanelle he found no organization nor any members of a former class in that town, so he organized a new class with the following first members: Josiah Bennett, A. H. Mory, Margaret Mory, Sarah J. Brown, A. W. Dorn and Laura Dorn.

In March, 1866, Mr. Darby organized a class at Elliott's, composed of members from the Webster and Wahtawah classes. Forty-five members were reported at the end of the year in the whole charge. During the year the parsonage at Greenfield was rented to various parties, the pastor not occupying it. In the fall of 1866 Rev. E. A. Winning, a flying evangelist, with headquarters in the field, was appointed to this mission. His labors, assisted by his wife, lasted for three years. He organized the Jackson class on January 5, 1867. On February 10th of the same year he formed the McClure class, with B. W. McClure as leader. When his term of work had expired he left the church with a membership of 163 and 32 probationers,

where he had found only 32 in all. About 1871 he left this part of the country for California seeking for health.

The conference for 1869 sent Rev. W. H. Records to the Greenfield charge, as this work was now called. It comprised appointments that year at Greenfield, Fontanelle, Pleasant Ridge, Nevin McClure's and Hazel Green. Mr. Records remained a year and at the close reported a membership of seventy-eight and thirty probationers. The one church property in the possession of the denomination at this time was the parsonage at Greenfield, valued at \$450.

Rev. A. A. Powers was the next to take charge of this work in the fall of 1870 and the first quarterly meeting was held at Fontanelle on November 19th of that year. The following board of trustees was appointed for Fontanelle: W. R. Buell, H. H. Dart, James Rany, Norman Norton, J. A. Daugherty, J. C. Gibbs and J. J. Hetherington. These men contracted and had built during the summer of 1871 the parsonage of Fontanelle. Powers resided at the latter place and the parsonage at Greenfield was rented. In May, 1871, Powers resigned as pastor and J. E. Jones served out the remainder of the year. During this year the circuit was divided and Greenfield and Fontanelle were made separate charges. At the conference held in the fall of 1871 Greenfield Circuit was supplied by Rev. J. L. Walton and Fontanelle by Rev. F. A. Goodrich. Rev. Mathew Mitchell was the pastor sent to Greenfield in the fall of 1872 and his circuit comprised appointments at Greenfield, Summit, Orient and Nevin. The first quarterly meeting was held in Greenfield December 28, 1872. Rev. M. Sheets was appointed to the Fontanelle Mission in the fall of 1872. In 1873 he was succeeded by Rev. Leon Shaw. In 1874 Rev. William L. Reid assumed the pastorate of the Greenfield Circuit. Rev. J. A. Jefferson was sent to Fontanelle at the same time. In the fall of 1875 Rev. L. Laverty assumed the duties at Greenfield, but leaving during the year, J. W. McPherson was appointed to the vacancy. Rev. Cyrus Smith was sent to the Fontanelle Mission the same year. The year 1876-77 found the Rev. G. F. Couffer on the Greenfield Circuit. During his pastorate a house of worship was erected at Greenfield. The lumber for the house was hauled from Stuart and the contract for the construction let to S. Parker of Greenfield. The total cost at the time was about two thousand dollars and a debt of \$400 hung over it.

Rev. C. L. Nye took up the work in the fall of 1877. During his first year a Sunday school was organized. In this year the Nevinville circuit was organized. Nevin was first organized as a class in



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GREENFIELD





the winter of 1864 by Rev. P. F. Brazee, with the following members: George W. Grant, Julia Grant, E. Sawyer, Kate Sawyer, M. Covey, Ruth Covey, N. E. Jewett, Oliver Jewett, Cordelia Jewett and S. E. Gandy. In 1881 a fine church edifice was erected at this place.

In the autumn of 1878 Rev. T. A. Lampman took charge of the Greenfield Church. He had found the church in debt, but during his term of service he reduced this debt besides making added improvements. In the fall of 1878 Rev. C. L. Nye was appointed to the charge at Fontanelle. A Methodist Sabbath school was organized this year in the latter place for the first time. In the fall of 1878 Rev. J. R. Welborn was selected to take charge of the new work at Pleasant Hill. His appointments were Pleasant Hill, Eureka Center, Oaks schoolhouse, Prussia Center and Willow Green. He served one year and was succeeded by Rev. Austin Crooks. Rev. Jesse Evans was sent in the fall of 1880 to succeed Reverend Lampman at Greenfield and Rev. J. A. Wilson to Fontanelle. H. H. Badley was appointed to the charge at Orient. L. W. Gary was appointed to fill the rural appointments of the Fontanelle charge. One of the first things done in Fontanelle was the healing of the breach between this church and the Congregationalist, and accepting the invitation of that body to worship in their house. Early in the spring of 1881 a location was selected upon which to erect a church edifice of their own and upon June 24th the cornerstone was laid with great ceremonies by the Masons. But little else was done until the following year, when the outside was erected and enclosed. The interior was not finished until the winter of 1883-4. This church was dedicated on January 2, 1884, the dedicatory sermon being preached by Rev. H. H. Oneal, the presiding elder. Rev. A. W. Armstrong came to the Fontanelle charge in 1883.

On February 26, 1882, a class was organized at Brook's schoolhouse in the east part of Richland Township by Rev. J. A. Wilson, with the following members: Arthur Mays, Homer Brooks, Mary Brooks, Delilah Mays, ——— Mays, five in all, which class became very prosperous.

The Rev. J. D. DeTar followed in the charge at Greenfield.

The church at Adair was organized by Rev. T. A. Lampman with thirteen members in 1875. Rev. Lampman was the first pastor and remained in charge for three years. He was succeeded by Revs. George Detwiler, E. Kendall, Edwin Holmes, Simms, A. H. Murphy. The first services were held in the public school building

up until 1879, when, in the fall of the year, they began the erection of a church building. This cost \$2,000. It was dedicated on February 6, 1880. The three lots where it stood were purchased and given by the Ladies' Mite Society.

The Methodist Episcopal Church in Jefferson Township was erected in the summer of 1882, located upon the southwest corner of section 14. The building cost about one thousand six hundred dollars and was dedicated on September 10, 1882. The first religious services in this denomination were held at the house of William Hollingsworth in 1857, at which time a church society was formed with the following members: John and Ruth Easton, Mrs. George B. Wilson and Mrs. John Loucks.

At the first the Greenfield people met for worship in private houses, then the old schoolhouse and after that the courthouse where Warren's store now stands. As described before the church was constructed in the town in 1877 and Rev. C. L. Nye preached the first sermon therein. The old parsonage afterwards stood in the role of a barn on the back of the church lot; it was constructed by Rev. E. A. Winning in 1868. The lumber for this building was cut near Arbor Hill. The frame was hewn and pinned and the walnut siding was made in Greenfield. The second parsonage was built through the efforts of Rev. Homer Gaines. The present structure was built in 1898. Rev. J. W. Meredith at that time being pastor, most of the material of the original church building was worked up in the new church. The dedication of this building took place on August 21, 1898.

The pastors who have served at Greenfield are as follows: Revs. Hulbert, 1859; Levan, 1860; S. W. Milligan, 1861; James Lisle, 1862; Arthur Badley, 1863; S. Osborne, 1864; J. E. Darby, 1865; E. A. Winning, 1866-9; A. A. Powers, 1870; W. H. Record, 1871; G. A. Goodrich, 1872-3; William T. Reed, 1874-5; L. Laverty, 1876; R. M. Couffer, 1877; C. L. Nye, 1878; T. A. Lampman, 1879; J. A. Wilson, 1880-2; J. D. De Tar, 1883-4; A. E. Griffith, 1885; B. T. Fassett, 1886-8; J. M. Conrad, 1888; C. W. Stewart, 1889; A. W. Armstrong, 1890-1; J. F. Campbell, 1891-3; William M. Todd, 1893-5; W. J. Meredith, 1896-8; J. W. Matheny, 1899; Fred Harris, 1900-2; Conrey, 1902-4; W. H. Cable, 1905-8; H. P. Dudley, 1908-10; Enoch Hill, 1910-12; J. S. Young, 1913-14; J. E. Lombard, 1915-.

The Grove Center church was started in 1878, when D. C. Franklin, then pastor at Menlo, came to the old schoolhouse where Grove

Center school now stands and held the first revival meeting ever held in all the country. After Doctor Franklin organized the class Revs. Hohenshelt, Voorhees and J. J. Varley were pastors. In 1887 Rev. Varley, assisted by O. W. Lippincott, had the second great meeting. At the close of the meeting a board of trustees consisting of H. F. Hodges, J. M. Humphrey, W. C. McCrea, H. Horn, J. D. McIntyre, W. Plymnesser, F. Shirk and Neal Vreeland was formed and in 1888 they secured the money and built a church on the lot where the present structure now stands. This building was struck by lightning in the summer of 1912 and was burned to the ground.

After Grove Center became a regular preaching place it was first placed with one charge and then another until at different times it belonged to Menlo, Casey, Prussia, Stuart Circuit and Greenfield, and at these different times was served by the pastors of those charges. Part of the time the charge was with Menlo, Rev. W. W. Bollinger, now of Winfield, Kan., was pastor. He, too, has always been an indefatigable worker and a great revivalist and as usual held a meeting at Grove that resulted in eighty conversions and many additions to the church. After Brother Bollinger's removal the church suffered greatly by removals and was about to be given up as a preaching point when Rev. Alonzo Pruitt took charge. The effects of the great meeting at Hoadley and the building of the new church there re-inspired the people and thirty new members were added to the church.

The work remained with the Stuart Circuit until 1904 when Brother Hohenshelt took charge and placed Grove Center with Greenfield, Rev. A. F. Conrey then being pastor. The elder speaks in highest term of Brother Conrey's work. After Conrey came Rev. W. H. Cable, three years; Rev. H. P. Dudley, two years; Enoch Hill, two years, and then the present pastor.

After the loss of the building by lightning there was some discussion about rebuilding and as to location, but a building committee was finally selected consisting of Loren Sulgrove, H. F. Shirk, Edwin Horn, W. Plymnesser, James Masten and A. J. Bruce, and with the assistance of David Wilson the money for the new building was subscribed in one week. These men have labored with untiring energy and as a result one of the most convenient and beautiful country churches in the district now occupies the former site. There was an unusually good meeting during the winter of 1913, but the following spring a number of families moved away, and this loss was felt. Some of these have returned and others have become more



active and the church at present is in good condition. It was dedicated June 14, 1914.

The church at Clara Chapel had its beginning in 1877. In that year, at the request of John Gillis, preaching was conducted and a Sunday school organized at the old Bethel schoolhouse. During 1878 Rev. C. L. Nye held a revival meeting and secured a number of converts. From time to time preaching was conducted by the different circuit riders and in 1885 Rev. A. E. Griffith organized the first Methodist class, the following persons being the charter members: John Hoop and wife, J. M. Humphrey and wife, J. P. Clair and wife, J. S. Sweeney and wife, C. H. Nieley and wife, and Jacob Wolf. Preaching was held at this point for years, the pastor at Greenfield supplying the work. Later the point was turned over to the Atlantic District and made a part of the Stuart Circuit, and the Hoadley schoolhouse two miles north was used for the services. Here, as at the other point, many precious meetings were held and frequently large numbers taken into the church, perhaps the greatest ingathering being during the ministry of Rev. T. W. Tippet in 1890. The first Sunday school superintendent in Hoadley was J. M. Humphrey, who after one year's service moved to Grove Center.

As the class grew the agitation for a new church building was pushed. One effort was made to build Clara Chapel, and the cyclone came and the work was abandoned, but on February 2, 1902, Rev. Fletcher Brown dedicated the present structure while Rev. Alonzo Pruitt was pastor and the building was named after Clara (Nelson) Frizell, a sainted soul who had at about that time passed to her reward.

Clara Chapel remained as part of the Stuart Circuit until 1904, when through some mistake the charge was left without a pastor. The next year Rev. W. H. Cable took charge; since then the church has prospered, thirty-nine of the sixty-three members having joined during the present pastorate. The church has recently been painted, papered, new light plant, walks and everything is in a flourishing condition, the League averaging fifty in attendance and the Sunday school seventy-five. It is a delightful place in which to preach, and in a few minutes the speaker readily realizes he has the sympathy of the audience. Of the forty-three who joined church last winter every one held out, and practically all were young men and women.

The church at Penn Avenue, Richland Township, was dedicated in August, 1896. The cost was \$1,600. This society was started in 1881 by the organization of a Sabbath school, through the efforts of a school teacher, Miss Peters, at the Gem Point schoolhouse. Homer



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, FONTANELLE





Brooks was the first superintendent. Gary, Williams, Wilson, Gaines, Maybee, Bishop, Palmer, Hamilton, Pain, and Taylor were the names of some of the early members. It was called the Pennsylvania Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Fontanelle class was first organized in 1862 by Rev. James Lisle, it being a part of the Greenfield Circuit. In 1871 it became a separate mission. In 1866 the society was reorganized with twenty members, and in 1867 Jackson and Richland congregations were formed. Then by the withdrawal of two members, Fontanelle was left without a Methodist organization. In 1868 Rev. E. A. Winning re-formed the class with two members and twenty probationers. In 1870 Rev. W. H. Records took up the work and in 1871 Fontanelle was detached from the Greenfield Circuit and the first parsonage built. The Rev. F. A. Goodrich was the first regularly appointed pastor to this charge. He was followed in 1872 by Rev. M. Sheets, then Revs. L. A. Shaw, J. A. Jefferson, C. Smith, C. L. Nye. In 1880 an addition to the parsonage was constructed and an organ purchased. The Methodist Sunday School was organized for the first time then and in the winter the members withdrew from the Congregational Church and went over to the German Church for worship. In 1879 they transferred their services to the old courthouse. In 1880-1 Rev. J. A. Wilson held the pastorate. In 1881, in the spring, \$1,200 in subscriptions was given for the erection of a new church building. The cornerstone was laid on June 24, 1881, by the Masonic Order. At this time the Richland society became dissatisfied with the occupation of the Union Church by the Methodists and withdrew, forming a Congregational Church at Pleasant Grove. After Wilson as pastor, there came A. W. Armstrong in 1884; E. E. Ilgenfritz, 1886; Asahel Thornbrue, 1889; A. G. Forman, 1890; Socrates Weaver, 1892; John C. Hall, 1895; M. R. Harned, 1898; S. W. Maine, 1901; A. H. Rusk, 1903; W. H. Doyle, 1905; E. Voorhees, 1907; A. Bree-ling, 1909; J. W. Harwood, 1912; and the present pastor, J. Owen Smith, in 1913. At present there are 200 members in the Fontanelle class, and in the Highland class, also supplied by Rev. Smith, there are 100 members.

#### CONGREGATIONAL

The Congregational Church of Fontanelle is one of the oldest religious societies in the county, having been organized in 1856 with the following members: J. J. Leeper, Mrs. J. J. Leeper, Robert Snodgrass, Mrs. Robert Snodgrass, Cal Ballard, Mrs. Cal Ballard,

Mrs. Nancy Parr, G. F. Kilburn, D. L. Smith, Evan Evans, Mrs. Mary Evans, James Ewing and Mrs. Margaret Ewing. Rev. J. Mather was the pioneer pastor and under whose instruction the church was formed. The following clergymen have filled the pulpit since: J. S. Davis, A. V. Horn, J. W. Peet, G. M. Orvis, A. W. Archibald, H. S. Fish, G. W. Dungan, P. R. Adams, William Brooks. The present pastor is Reverend Blakely.

The church edifice, the first in the county, was erected in 1871 at a cost of \$1,700 and was dedicated on June 4th of that year. The American Congregational Union donated \$500 toward the building of that structure and the balance of the amount was raised here and the entire indebtedness paid before the dedication of the church. In 1883 a fine bell was purchased at a cost of \$75. The first officers of the church organization were: J. J. Leeper and Robert Snodgrass, deacons; D. L. Smith, clerk; G. F. Kilburn, trustee.

There are now 120 members of the Fontanelle charge and a good Sunday school of 100. The pastor also attends the Pleasant Grove church four miles south of the Town of Fontanelle. There are but fourteen members in the latter congregation.

#### UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

The United Presbyterian Church of Greenfield had its beginning in the '70s. A number of families of this religious faith settled in Adair County during the years 1875-6-7 and occasionally held services, being supplied with preachers at intervals by the Des Moines Presbytery during the fall of 1877. A church organization was, however, effected on February 16, 1878, through the labors of Rev. S. W. Lorimer, of the Presbytery of Nebraska, with the following members: W. L. Linn, M. A. Linn, J. H. Giffin, W. D. Giffin, J. M. Ross, M. J. Ross, Sarah Paisley, A. R. Morrison, M. A. Morrison, J. R. E. Sterrett, M. E. Sterrett and E. L. Rust. The first officers were: W. L. Linn, ruling elder; S. M. Paisley, J. M. Ross and A. R. Morrison, trustees. This church was supplied with preaching by the presbytery until the latter part of 1879. J. F. Martin was then installed as pastor by a commission of the presbytery on December 29, 1879, but had really presided over the church since the first of May previously. A church edifice was erected during the summer of 1881 and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on August 21st of the same year by Reverend McMichael of Monmouth, Ill. The building was a frame structure, 38 by 60 feet in size, with 18-foot



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, FONTANELLE





ceiling, and cost \$3,000. The building was afterwards remodeled and was rededicated on January 11, 1899. This society has now become non-existent, and on February 10, 1914, the church property was sold to the Presbyterians and then moved to the lot four blocks southeast.

#### PRESBYTERIAN

The Presbyterian Church of Greenfield was organized on May 17, 1874, and incorporated on June 5th following. The organization was brought about through the labors of Rev. H. H. Kellogg, then the pastor of the church at Menlo, or rather Guthrie, as it was then called. The following were the first members: A. S. Carmichael, R. A. Carmichael, A. M. Hutchinson, Ellen Hutchinson, Adeline Morris, John Paulus, Elizabeth Paulus, Jane Reed, Martha Reed, Ellen Reed, Mary Reed, Asa Wilson, Hannah Wilson, Samuel Wilson, Mary Wilson, C. P. Gilbert and wife. The first officers chosen were: A. S. Carmichael, S. E. Morris and C. P. Gilbert, trustees; Asa Wilson, elder. The first pastor was Rev. C. Merwin, who attended from about the 1st of September, 1875, and considerable interest was awakened. Rev. C. H. DeLong commenced preaching to this society April 1, 1877, and remained for a year. About this time a colony separated from the parent church and organized a class at Orient. Rev. W. P. Barth was the next to fill the pulpit, serving for two years beginning in the spring of 1879. Then Rev. C. H. DeLong returned from Creston and preached alternately between there and Greenfield during the summer. On the 1st of November, 1881, he again took charge alone and served for several years.

In 1882 the matter of erecting a church edifice was taken up for consideration. In the spring of 1883 this movement became a strong one and \$3,000 was raised by subscription. A building was then erected, and dedicated in October, 1884, costing about five thousand dollars.

Reverend DeLong remained in the field until 1886. Rev. K. J. Duncan came in April, 1889, and stayed until September, 1890. Rev. J. W. Knott acted as supply until October, 1892. Rev. John Young came in June, 1893, and was pastor until he resigned in September, 1901. Reverend Patterson acted as supply during the summer of 1901 and then Rev. G. M. Tourtelott acted in the same capacity until December, 1904. Reverend Carlstrom was here for

one year and Reverend Buchanan came in March, 1907. Rev. A. A. Smidt came in July, 1909.

The Presbyterian Church of Adair was organized on April 13, 1875, at a meeting held at a residence of Henry P. Starr by the Rev. J. C. Hanna. Ten members formed the first class, namely: P. M. Crawford and wife, J. R. Porter and wife, J. McKenzie and wife, Henry P. Starr and wife, James Campbell and D. W. Moss. H. P. Starr and D. W. Moss were elected elders for the first year; James Campbell, John McKenzie and Philander Crawford, deacons; D. W. Moss, P. M. Crawford and James Campbell, trustees. Rev. J. C. Hanna preached here for a period of two years, on alternate Sundays, and was succeeded by Revs. J. A. Walker, W. R. Smith, W. M. Graham, Bruce, Rankin, Kephart.

The Presbyterian Mite Society attached to this church at Adair was instituted at a meeting at the house of Mrs. R. B. Brown on October 4, 1877.

#### CATHOLIC

The Catholic Church at Greenfield was started about twenty-seven years ago, meetings being held at irregular intervals at the home of Mrs. Homeyer. In 1908 a church building was constructed and later a parsonage. There are forty-five families in the congregation. Father Albin was the first pastor to serve this church, and the second and present pastor is Rev. J. P. Danahy.

The Catholic Church at Adair was organized in the late '70s, with a frame building south of town. In 1895 a handsome church building was constructed in town and in 1905 a parsonage adjoining. The present membership includes about four hundred souls. The pastor is Reverend Mullen.

#### GERMAN LUTHERAN

The first services of the German Lutherans at Fontanelle were held in 1870 by Revs. Gottlieb Schenerle and Weiss, missionaries from Fort Dodge, Ia. Services in German were held at the courthouse at regular intervals, amounting in all to about three or four weeks, from that time until 1873, when a church and congregation was formed with the following members: John Ehrenfried, Fritz Kreis, George H. Bauer, Ed H. Heiman, Arnott Wühman, John Mangels, John Bohling, Henry Welscher, Henry Krooss, Nik Leuthhäuser, Fred Winter, August Fust, Jacob Bahlmann, Wil-



GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH, FONTANELLE



helm Mehl. The first trustees were as follows: Edward Heiman, John Bohling, Henry Welscher, W. Mehl and George Bauer. The congregation, which was known as the German Evangelical Lutheran Emmanuel Church, erected a beautiful edifice for worship in the fall of 1873 and spring of 1874 at a cost of about \$2,000. The building was dedicated on May 26, 1874. The pastors have been: Revs. G. Schenerle, L. C. Neumeyer, J. W. C. Noll, Joseph O. Zwicker, H. Freytag (1885-1902), Ernst Lehman, 1902, A. Zimmerman, 1909. There are at present 335 members of this congregation, of which number 227 are communicants and 71 voting members.

During the Lehman pastorate a new \$1,800 schoolhouse was built and a new parsonage, the latter costing \$2,800.

At a general meeting of the church on January 1, 1914, it was decided that the old church building was becoming too small for the needs of the congregation and that a new house of worship should be constructed. Accordingly all plans were made for this building. The drawings of R. T. Simmon of Bloomington, Ill., were accepted and the contract let to Heinz & Maloy of Creston for the sum of \$10,282. The building was started on August 1st and the cornerstone laid on September 20th. The whole improvement cost something like thirteen thousand dollars, most of which was given by voluntary subscription. The pastor and the young people purchased the pulpit, the stained glass windows and the altar; the ladies bought the pews and other furniture; while the magnificent pipe organ was the gift of Mr. J. F. Baudler and the First National Bank. The church has just recently, April, 1915, been dedicated.

The cornerstone of the Lutheran Church, Immanuel's Congregation of Prussia Township, was laid September 7, 1913. This society was started in 1875 by the erection of a small frame church, 30 feet by 42 feet, on the Julius Sieg farm, where the new building is now located.

The Anita Mission of the Evangelical Church of Jackson Township organized in 1874 with the following original members: G. H. Metzgar and wife, Margaret and Rosa Metzgar, August Rechtenbach and wife, Theodore and John Rechtenbach.

The Anita Mission of the same church in Prussia Township was organized in 1876, with the following members: George Farewell and wife, John Erbes and wife, C. Schwambeck and wife, Ernest Funk and wife. The first pastor was J. P. Pflame.



## CHRISTIAN

The Christian Church of Jefferson Township was organized in August, 1865, by William Deal and J. B. McGinnis. The first meetings were held at the Watawah schoolhouse, which was shortly afterwards purchased for church purposes by John Loucks and J. B. McGinnis. The building stood on the southeast corner of the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 27, on land belonging to John Loucks. It was 20 by 30 feet in size. The original members of this class were: J. B. McGinnis and wife, John Loucks and wife, Francis and Hill Darnill, William Deal and wife. J. B. McGinnis was the first elder. William Deal and William Hopkins did the first preaching in this township.

The Pleasant Christian Church of Jackson Township was organized March 23, 1880, with the following members: J. B. Sullivan and wife, W. J. Simpson and wife, A. E. Jackson and wife, L. Banister and wife, O. O. Farnham, A. Beaver and wife, Martha J. Lawrence, A. Lawrence, Edith Lawrence, E. H. Sullivan and Laura B. Stoner. The church was organized under the labors of Rev. William Gadd. Rev. O. E. Brown was installed as the first minister, being succeeded by Rev. Henry Davis. Meetings were first held at the Pleasant Valley schoolhouse.

## ORIENT CHURCHES

The Congregational Church of Orient was organized October 11, 1881. As they had no church building at that time, services were held at Sprague's Hall. In the early '80s a church building was moved into Orient from the country and is now used by the society. Rev. R. R. Adams was the first minister to preach after the organization had been effected and Rev. James Orvis preached the first sermon in the new building. This was on July 6, 1884. The following were the first members of the church: J. N. and Mary A. Colby, Mr. and Mrs. Batie, Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Garlock, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Slocum, Herman D. Stowell, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Collins. The church was incorporated January 27, 1882. The Congregational Society in Orient at the present time has a good membership, about 200, and hold regular services.

The Methodist Church at Orient first effected an organization about the year 1870 or 1871. Services were held first at Sprague's Hall every two weeks. The following are the names of the first

members of this church: Maria Hastings, John Garmon, Mary Garmon, Hilda Spencer, D. E. Mitchell, Almira Witham, Caroline Mitchell. Rev. John Walton was the pioneer minister of this organization. In 1900 a new church building was constructed by the society. There are 200 members in 1915 and the church is in good financial condition.

The church building of St. Mark's Catholic Church of Orient was built in 1901. At this time there were about twenty-five members. This society had been in existence for about twenty years previous to this time and had held bi-weekly meetings at the home of M. Hennessy, one of the strongest supporters of the church. Father McKeever was the first pastor to hold services in the town. There are 100 members at the present time and the church is supplied by Father Danahay of Greenfield.

#### BAPTIST CHURCH

The Baptist Church of Greenfield was organized during the year 1874. Among its first members were found William Rodgers and wife, A. L. Harrison and wife, Ranson Patrick and wife, G. E. Hamlin and wife and possibly others. Reverend Birch was its first pastor and under him and his immediate successors, services were held in the courthouse, in the schoolhouse, and in 1882 with the Methodists.

In 1883 they built the house of worship they now own and which, together with the lot on which it stands, cost \$4,000.

Among its first pastors were the following: Revs. Birch, Barnes, Williams, Wm. Carpenter, Berry, Burr and Anthony Jacobs.

The largest growth in membership to date seems to have been during the pastorate of A. Jacobs when the previous membership of about sixty was more than doubled.

About the year 1882 services were discontinued, the house remaining closed until September 14, 1890; a little band met for the purpose of organizing a temporary Sunday school, G. E. Hamlin in the chair.

The following officers were elected: Miss Alice Taylor, Mrs. W. G. Bell, Miss Mabel Jones, Miss May Sampson, Minnie Hetherington, Abe Swisher and Emma Vincent. The Publication Society furnished the first quarter's supplies. The attendance, September 28th, was twenty-eight, thus the number increased until a permanent Sunday school was organized by R. A. Smith, district missionary, on February 28, 1892. This time the officers were: J. F. Walter,

Clara Bell, Mrs. W. G. Bell, J. C. Crawford, Maud Carson, Stella Rice and Minnie Hetherington.

At this time the property was about to be sold to satisfy judgments for nearly five hundred dollars. The misfortunes of the past made all very much discouraged and many hopeless. Through the advice of Rev. N. B. Rairdon, the secretary of the state convention, plans were set on foot to clear the indebtedness. A sale of forty feet off the north end of the church lot was effected to R. Wallace for \$200. Pledges for the rest were soon obtained.

A meeting was called and a resolution adopted as follows: "For the purpose of assuming a new name and commence work without any of the old obstacles in the way that surround the Baptist Church Association of Greenfield, therefore be it Resolved: That this church disband looking toward an immediate reorganization." The church was disbanded and reorganized under the name of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Greenfield. Rev. Harry Ferguson of Cumberland gave efficient help during the last week in February, 1892. The church adopted the New Hampshire Articles of Faith as a standard of belief. On March 20, 1892, the church was incorporated. (See records at courthouse.)

On August 19, 1892, a council was called which consisted of delegates from Creston, Liberty and Forest Avenue, Des Moines, churches for the purpose of recognizing the new organization as a regular Baptist Church.

The council organized with Rev. H. J. Powell of Creston, moderator, and E. R. Daniels of Stuart as clerk. Others assisting in the recognition services were C. F. Petzoldt. Rev. J. W. Knott, pastor of the Greenfield Presbyterian Church, gave the charge to the church; hand of fellowship by E. R. Daniels, and benediction by the supply pastor, J. Y. Aitcheson.

Among the pastors who have served the church to date are: J. Y. Aitcheson, W. C. Shepherd, E. B. Tucker, L. A. Lovelace, George Kline, Amos Weaver, E. Bodenham, T. F. Clark, J. A. Armstrong, H. M. Peterson, Amil A. Oestreich, Orr Campbell, R. T. Butler, Charles H. Sloan. W. L. Anderson is just entering on his pastorate, May 1, 1915. Several of the above named pastors served only a few months as supply pastors.

During the year 1895 was a very trying time, but through the faithfulness of a few the Sunday school, prayer meetings and B. Y. P. U. were kept up.



BAPTIST CHURCH, GREENFIELD





Those who have served as superintendent of the Sunday school are Mrs. M. L. Hitchcock, Maude Hitchcock, J. F. Walter, Dr. G. E. Thweat, P. P. Clement, B. F. Garmer, Dr. E. Babcock, Myrtle Rivenburgh, Omer Vandivier, Dan Shaw, James Harrison, Alice Taylor, W. G. Bell and A. J. McFarland.

The year 1903 is prominent in that there was the largest ingathering of new members; 1906, repairs on the building to the amount of \$600 were made, and the pastor, H. M. Peterson, ordained to the ministry.

In the year 1914 two sides of the church lot, which is one of the best located in the city, were paved and imposed quite a financial burden upon the little flock of faithful workers.

The membership list was recently revised and numbers today about forty resident members and twenty-five non-resident members.

That which deserves the most honor and which is worthy of the most praise since its organization in the year 1892, is the fact that the church has kept up the work in its auxiliary societies and its mid-week and Sunday services with the exception of preaching services, even when pastorless for several years at a time. The most discouraging feature has been the loss by removal of leaders and financial supporters.

#### OTHER CHURCHES

Church buildings other than those mentioned before have been erected as follows: Grand River Congregational, moved to Orient; Henron Methodist; Hill of Zion in Union Township; Christian, Wilson Chapel Methodist; Gem Point Sunnyside Congregational; Brush Church Richland Congregational; Otis Chapel Methodist; Avondale Methodist Washington; a Catholic Church in Jackson; two churches in Eureka; Methodist at Highland in Prussia; and a Quaker Church at Canby in Walnut Township.

A Christian Church was built at Fontanelle and a Seventh Day Adventist Church, both of which had a strong membership for some years, but most of the members either moved away or died and the churches have been little used in recent years. The Mormons have had an organization at Fontanelle, with occasional meetings for more than fifty years, but have never erected buildings.

## CHAPTER IX

### GREENFIELD TOWN AND TOWNSHIP

#### ORGANIZATION

The territory which comprises Greenfield Township is in sections 7, 8, 17, 18, 19 and 20 of township 75, range 31. This subdivision was organized in 1859 and originally constituted the territory now known as Greenfield, Lee and Orient townships. Orient Township was the first to withdraw from this territory, which occurred June 7, 1869. It was then organized as Dayton Township, but was afterwards changed, by request of the citizens, to its present name. Lee followed in the fall of 1880, leaving Greenfield as it now is.

#### SETTLEMENT

The first to make a settlement within Greenfield Township were two men named Hodgson and Hillin. They came in 1854 and located upon the southwest quarter of section 7. Here they constructed pole cabins of the most primitive architecture. However, they made no improvements and soon left the county, their lands falling into the possession of Milton Munger.

The next to make a settlement was S. K. Mallery, who had made some improvements and broken some land when the Town of Greenfield was laid out. Among the other old settlers of this part of the county might be mentioned J. Myers, Matthew Clark and A. P. Littleton.

A. P. Littleton opened the first store in the town, in the first building which was erected in Greenfield. This was a small structure, built of planks, and had been used as a stage station. In June, 1859, he put in a small stock of general merchandise in a front room. In the fall of the same year he removed to a small building which had been erected on a lot on the east side of the square. This building was some time afterwards removed to near the hotel and here

Mr. Littleton ran his store until 1868, when he built a new building on the same lot and in this continued until 1878. In December of that year he sold his stock of goods to A. P. Stephens & Company, who ran it until March, 1883, when it passed into the hands of Fuller, Warren & Company.

The fourth place of business was opened by Hutchinson Brothers in 1873, in a small building erected by C. P. Gilbert. They had a general stock of goods in which dry goods predominated.

The second place of business in the town was that of C. P. Gilbert, who opened a drug and grocery store in the spring of 1869. This he continued until the autumn of 1873, when he sold out to Hutchinson Brothers.

The first blacksmith was H. W. Blakeley, who erected a building directly opposite and west of where the Citizens' Bank later stood, in the year 1859. Franklin Letts was another early blacksmith. The pioneer wagon maker was Caleb Lyon, who had his shop in the same building with Blakeley, the blacksmith. In 1870 Charles Bishop established the first harness shop in the town.

#### HISTORY OF GREENFIELD

Written by Miss Pearl Oldham, a member of the Greenfield High School.

The Town of Greenfield is situated about a mile and one-half south of the center of Adair County, Ia. It is the county seat of the county and has a population of 1,445.

A stage coach station built of logs and with a canvas roof at first stood where the West Side Livery Barn lots now stand. It was run by Matthew Clark. The old barn stood where Haven & Heifner's livery barn now is. The present town was laid out in 1856 by Milton C. Munger. The first building built was the Kirkwood Hotel, into which Mr. Clark then moved his hotel. It stood where Whitnah's store now stands. Among the first dwelling houses were those of Mr. Myers, standing where Coffey & Irwin have their implement store; A. P. Littleton's, the present home of Vern Littleton, and a log cabin east of where Mr. Sullivan now lives.

The first store was opened by A. P. Littleton in June, 1859. It was in the same old log building in which Mr. Clark had had the stage coach station. He ran a general merchandise store, having groceries, dry goods, hardware, boots and shoes, and even keeping millinery.

He also had the postoffice in the same building. C. P. Gilbert had the second store. It was a drug and grocery store, opened in 1869. Charles Bishop ran the third store opened. It was a harness shop opened in 1870. The fourth store was a general merchandise store opened in 1873 by the Hutchinson Brothers. After this the stores began to be opened quite extensively.

It was about this time that the county seat war was going on. Fontanelle had been the county seat, but Greenfield wanted the honor and for several years had been working toward that end. Finally, March 22, 1875, the records were moved from Fontanelle to Greenfield. This was on Monday, and on the following Monday Judge Mitchell came to hold court and was invited to come to Greenfield, as the county seat had been changed. He informed the people that the county seat was still at Fontanelle and went over there and directed the sheriff to go and bring back the records. Several men went with the officer and they came over and tried to get them but could not do it. He could do no more the next day, and so on Tuesday evening a messenger was sent to Des Moines, who returned the following evening with Gen. N. B. Baker, the state adjutant-general. He finally persuaded the Greenfield people to let the records be taken back to Fontanelle. But on the 24th day of June, 1875, the county seat was again moved to Greenfield by a decision of the Supreme Court, and here it has remained ever since. Greenfield then donated a courthouse to the county and it stood where Mr. Warren's store now is. The following year, 1876, the town was incorporated.

On June 2, 1875, the first newspaper here. It was the Greenfield Transcript, edited by Mr. Flynn.

In 1879 the railroad came through the town. It only went to Fontanelle but was afterward extended to Cumberland.

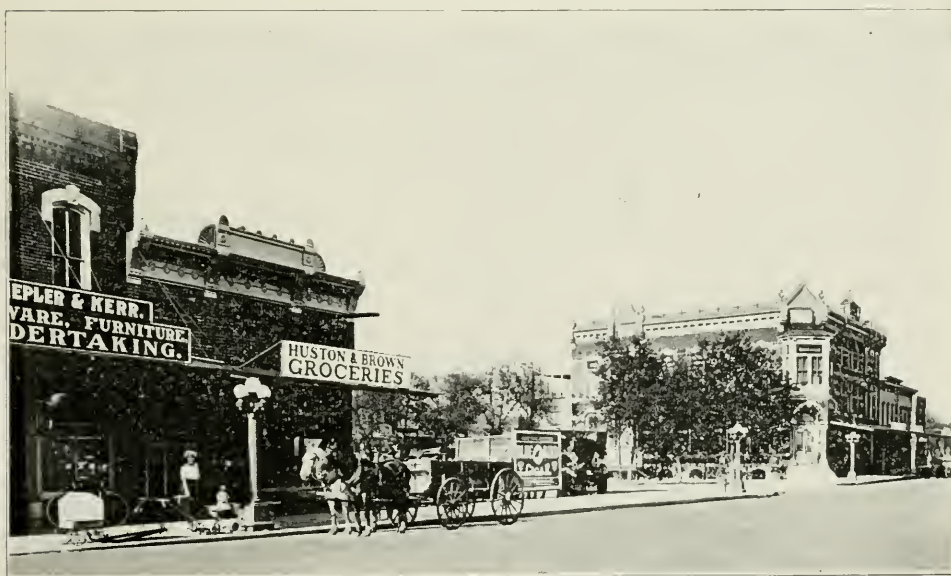
The first school taught was in an old log house standing east of where Mr. Burget's property now is. It was started in 1859, the first teacher being A. P. Littleton. In the summer of 1861 the first schoolhouse was built. It was situated on the west side of the present South Ward school grounds. But finally there were so many pupils that they had to rent rooms from other buildings and hold school in them. The money was raised and in the summer of 1877 the South Ward school building was built at a cost of \$5,230. Again in 1883 more school room was needed and the North Ward School was built.

The first church erected was the Methodist Church in 1877; the next was the United Presbyterian in 1881; the third was the Baptist erected in 1883; and the fourth was the Presbyterian in 1884.





SOUTH SIDE SQUARE, GREENFIELD



NORTH SIDE SQUARE, GREENFIELD





In 1883 a fire broke out in J. W. Valentine's bakery, standing where it now stands, which burned north and took all the buildings along there, including the courthouse which the town had built. Immediately another courthouse was built, but this time by the county. It was not nearly so good as the one built by the town and often went by the name of "sheep shed." In 1891 the present courthouse was built and the "sheep shed" was moved over on the west side of the square where Green's store now is. It was afterward moved again and was divided and now is used for a feed store and poultry market.

On December 19, 1890, the electric light plant started up, which was a great improvement to the town. Since then a new engine has been put in which is much larger and better than the first one. From that time to this many new buildings have been erected. The town is well supplied with cement walks, which is a striking feature to anyone coming into it. It also has a park donated to the town by Milton C. Munger, the same time that the city was laid out.

In 1903 the new jail was built, which is a large brick building situated in the east part of town. It is a great improvement over the old one, which was a frame building from which criminals often escaped.

From that time to this nothing of any great importance has happened to change the history of the town, and now the inhabitants live in peace and happiness.

#### THE PRESENT CITY

Greenfield is justly noted as a city of beautiful homes and an unequalled place of residence as well as where the occupants, more generally than in other towns of like size, are owners in fee of the homes which they occupy. Here are to be found the homes of rich and well-to-do and the cottages of those in the humbler, but no less honorable, walks of life. Around and about them all is the air of cheerfulness. A visitor to Greenfield will find a town which has had a steady growth without the usual boom. They will find a town whose property has been born by the energy, enterprise and enthusiasm of the West, guided and controlled by the safe conservatism of men of wise perceptions. Business has extended and values have arisen, but not more rapidly than the legitimate growth of the town and the development of the surrounding country would justify. Greenfield is a thriving little city of wide-awake, enterprising citi-

zens. It is the receiving and distributing point for a rich agricultural and stock raising district. Greenfield is unlike most towns of its size. Thrift and energy are noticed on every hand. The business portion of the town never appears dull to the observer. Creditable buildings and business blocks occupy the main street, and a tour of the residence portions of the town will disclose many handsome homes and well kept lawns. Greenfield has an excellent city government, the different officers being chosen from among the most prominent citizens. Temperance is the watchword and no saloon is to be found in the city, nor is drunkenness often seen among the people. Life and property are valued and well established and maintained, and with good society, healthy and delightful climate, good location of the city as to drainage, railroad, telephone, telegraph and mail facilities, good schools and churches and institutions, living in Greenfield is a decidedly pleasant occupation.

#### GREENFIELD BANKS

The Citizens Bank of Greenfield was organized on January 2, 1880, with C. D. Bevington as president; A. P. Littleton, cashier; and John J. Hetherington, assistant cashier. This bank was at that time run by a private banking company. In the year 1900 this bank became the First National Bank of Greenfield, the charter issued bearing the date of May 7th, that year. The organizers of the National bank were: A. P. Littleton, Lewis Linebarger, H. N. Linebarger, V. C. Littleton, and John A. Storey. A. P. Littleton was the first president; Lewis Linebarger the first vice president; H. N. Linebarger, first cashier; and V. C. Littleton the first assistant cashier. The first and present capital stock is \$25,000; the surplus is \$10,000; and the deposits average about \$255,000. The present officers and employes of the bank are as follows: Guy A. Lee, president; J. C. Hoyt, vice president; John A. Barr, cashier; E. G. Barrett, bookkeeper. The institution owns the bank building now occupied, which structure was erected in 1898 at a cost of \$6,100. This bank has always been successful in its business transactions and has merited the full confidence of the people. The financial condition of this bank is open to the inspection of the public at all times and every official examination has proved the books and accounts to be satisfactory.

The Greenfield Savings Bank was organized in 1913, the charter bearing the date of April 7, 1913. The following named men were



CITY PARK, GREENFIELD





the organizers of this institution: A. D. Crooks, C. K. Shreves, C. H. Williamson, J. W. Valentine, H. H. Gerken, Solon J. Don Carlos, W. W. Don Carlos, J. A. Harper, George D. Musmaker, S. Y. Cornell, R. A. Shreves, John Eagan, W. L. Battin, J. M. Adams, J. S. Carlyle, L. M. Crist and William Johnson. This formidable list of men represent a great part of the wealth of Adair County. The first officers and also the present are: W. L. Battin, president; George D. Musmaker, vice president; R. A. Shreves, cashier; W. W. Don Carlos, Jr., assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$30,000 and the deposits amount to an average of \$135,500 at the present time. The handsome building occupied by the bank was erected by that institution in 1914 and cost \$15,300, including real estate, furniture and fixtures. The Greenfield Savings Bank is a state institution and is subject to examination by the state department and is also examined four times a year by the home board of examiners. The bank is strong financially and is well patronized by the people of the county. It is young, but fast growing, and has the excellent spirit of progressiveness which is becoming to dominate the affairs of Adair County as a whole.

The Adair County Bank, the first one in the county, was established by D. Heaton & Company on January 6, 1876, a building having been erected for the purpose the previous September. This bank is a private institution, but beyond this nothing can be said. For reasons best known to themselves, the officials of this bank refuse to give any information regarding the financial conditions and history of this institution for publication in this work.

#### EARLY HOTELS

In 1858 a hotel was erected in Greenfield by Mathew Clark and, as this town was then an important station on the route to California and then and subsequently a convenient stage station on the lines of travel into Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri, this hotel was quite popular. Clark ran it until the spring of 1861, when he traded it to A. P. and A. D. Littleton. Clark moved to Colorado in 1863. The new owners of the hotel ran it a short time and then disposed of it to John Shreves, who kept it for several years. It then passed through several hands, among the owners being N. C. Eaton and E. R. Olmstead. The hotel had several names during its history. There was another hotel erected during the latter part of the year 1883, known as the Wilson House.

## MILLS

In 1877 a grist mill was constructed, operated by a windmill. This stood opposite the residence of A. P. Littleton. The mill was a complete failure and the \$1,000 which had been subscribed by the people was lost. It was afterwards sold at sheriff's sale and purchased by A. P. Littleton. He tore the structure down.

J. R. Kearney commenced the erection of a steam grist mill on April 1, 1884. It was 36 by 40 feet in ground area, three stories high, had three run of buhrs, with a capacity of producing fifty barrels of flour and grinding some three hundred bushels of corn. The cost of this mill was about eight thousand dollars.

The Greenfield steam elevator was built in the spring of 1879 at a cost of \$4,000. The builders and owners were the Scholes Brothers.

The Little Jay Creamery was an early industry, established as a dairy in September, 1883, at which time the building was completed. The dairy business was carried on until May, 1884, when it was merged into a creamery.

## FIRST ITEMS

The first house erected in Greenfield was built by Mathew Clark, for a stage station, in the year 1856. It was built of plank.

The first religious services were held at the house of S. K. Mallory, in the winter of 1858, by Rev. J. M. Rush of Lewis, who was a clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal denomination.

## INCORPORATION

In accordance with a petition signed by fifty of the leading citizens of Greenfield and dated April 27, 1876, an election was ordered to be held on the question of incorporating the town of Greenfield according to the laws of Iowa. The notice for this election was signed by S. C. Vance, E. Spooner, W. M. Rodgers, Richard Wallace and T. M. Neville, commissioners, and the date for the election was set for May 22, 1876. On this day S. C. Vance, W. M. Rodgers and R. Wallace acted as judges and Thomas W. Neville and J. McDermid as clerks of the election. When the ballots were counted it was found that there had been 101 votes cast in favor of incorporation and only 5 votes against it. It was then declared that the following territory was duly incorporated under the title of the Town of Green-

field: the south half of section 7, together with the north ten acres of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 18, all in township 75, range 31. The first officers of the town were the following: A. P. Littleton, mayor; L. E. Wilson, clerk; S. C. Vance, Charles Burrell, J. A. Myers, T. J. Shinn and D. Patterson, council members.

#### POSTOFFICE


The general knowledge as to the date of the establishment of the postoffice in Greenfield places it as 1856 or very near that year. M. Clark was the first postmaster and kept his office in his old plank house used as a stage station. He later removed it to the hotel later known as the Kirkwood. He was succeeded in this office by W. G. Boggs, who again removed the office to the house on the later site of the Wilson House. A. P. Littleton was the next postmaster, and he kept it in his store. He was succeeded by James Waggener, who moved it to the hotel, but in a short time it passed back into the hands of Littleton and he again took it to his store. Z. L. Eaton, James Waggener and A. S. Carmichael in turn occupied the position until 1881, when Dr. E. Spooner was appointed.

The office was made a money order office on July 1, 1877, and the first order drawn was issued to Mary Winterburn of Greenfield for \$1.75 and in favor of J. W. Walker of St. Louis, Mo.

Some of the men who have served as postmaster since Spooner are: J. S. Sidey, John J. Hetherington, H. P. Gow, R. B. Oldham, Frank B. Wilson. The office in 1915 is in the third class. There is no city delivery, but four carriers have rural routes. There are two employes in the office besides the postmaster.

#### COMMERCIAL CLUB

The Greenfield Commercial Club was organized in July, 1905, with the following first officers: E. J. Sidey, president; O. R. Yeager, W. L. Battin, J. N. Haddock, vice presidents; G. D. Musmaker, secretary; S. Y. Cornell, treasurer; S. D. Woods, corresponding secretary. Others who took an active part in the formation of the club were: J. T. Taylor, J. A. Burrell, W. W. Don Carlos, J. E. Brooks, Theodore Coffey and E. M. Syp. The purpose of the organization was to improve the city in every possible way.



## NEWSPAPERS

After the county seat controversy there was felt the need of a paper in Greenfield which the people could trust and patronize with satisfaction to themselves. The Reporter had taken such a course in the matter of the county seat that it was not popular. Under these circumstances Charles Stuart, who had considerable interest in the county, resolved to establish a paper at this place. He accordingly procured a press and type and an office outfit and shipped them across the country from Stuart. J. J. Flynn, then editor of the Stuart Locomotive, came down to superintend the matter. The press was established in the upper room of the A. P. Littleton Building. The type was hastily set up and on July 2, 1875, the first number of the Greenfield Transcript was issued. It was an 8-column folio, one side of which was printed in Chicago. Mr. Flynn was the nominal editor at this time, but owing to the time taken by his interests in Stuart, the active work as editor was largely performed by Joseph McDermid, a young lawyer of Greenfield.

Mr. Flynn continued as editor until November 24, 1876, and then McDermid assumed control as editor. He continued until April 20, 1877, at which time John W. Jones took his place. Mr. Jones continued in editorial charge of the paper until it was purchased of Stuart on March 1, 1878, by Dr. E. Spooner. In November, 1882, he disposed of a third of his interest to A. J. Shrader. Spooner afterwards sold out to C. D. Hunt and then the firm name became Hunt & Shrader. About the year 1901 H. P. Gow bought Hunt's stock and entered into partnership with Shrader, eventually taking over the entire plant. In 1906 he sold to the firm of Lynch & Oldham, which latter firm continued business together until 1913, when H. G. Lynch purchased the entire paper and continues successfully at the present time. The paper is now a 6-column quarto and maintains a very high journalistic standard. It is a decided aid to the formation of opinions in the county, besides being up to the minute from a news value standpoint.

The old Reporter was merged into the Transcript in the year 1889.

The Free Press, at present the largest newspaper in Adair County, was established in the year 1889 by Mr. E. J. Sidey, who has remained the owner and publisher of the paper for the entire twenty-five years, winning a well-merited success in the journalistic field and steadily increasing the circulation until now the paper has over two thousand subscribers. The paper was for eighteen years



called the Adair County Democrat and then was changed to the present full name of The Adair County Free Press. The first make-up was in the style of a 6-column quarto and this has been retained without change. In the year 1903 the increased patronage of the paper and the installation of modern newspaper machinery made imperative the construction of a special building for the accommodation of the plant. In this above named year, therefore, a brick building was built, costing the sum of \$6,000, being solid in construction and well adapted to its use. The machinery used in the production of the Free Press is of the latest type and designed for efficiency plus speed. The paper has been democratic throughout its life, being defined now as an independent democratic sheet. Six employes are retained by the management of the paper, to care for the extensive job work as well as the regular publication. Considering the difficult task the paper faced in gaining a foothold in the county, the growth and increased popularity of the Free Press should be a fact worthy of favorable comment and a record of pride for Adair County journalism.

#### GREENFIELD WATERWORKS

In the summer of 1906 a petition was circulated requesting the city council to call a special election to vote on the proposition of issuing waterworks bonds in the sum of \$25,000. The city council visited other towns for the purpose of inspecting the various waterworks systems and to ascertain the best in use. After the preliminary arrangements had been made the mayor of Greenfield ordered a special election to be held September 10, 1906. This was accordingly held and resulted in a vote in favor of the proposition and the issuance of bonds to the amount of \$10,000, but owing to some technicality in the preparation of the papers for the election the bonding companies would not buy the bonds. At the first election 360 votes were cast; 279 for and 81 against; 100 women voted for the works and 4 against. At the second election held May 10, 1909, 304 votes were cast, 253 of them being in favor of the proposition, and 235 votes were cast in favor of issuing the bonds.

The contract for the erection of the works was let to T. C. Brooks & Sons Company of Jackson, Mich., in August, 1909.

Wells were dug in the southeast part of town, giving a good supply of water, and main pipes laid in the principal streets, so that the town is well supplied with water for house use and fire protection.



## PAVING

In 1911 the town council of Greenfield let the contract for paving the city square and adjacent streets to Beebe Brothers of Omaha, Neb. About eight blocks were paved and the aggregate cost was about twenty-three thousand dollars. The decision to pave the public square in Greenfield was a welcome one to the citizens of Greenfield and the county, as well as to the many travelers and visitors to the city, for of all the unsightly places in the county the muddy, rock-ribbed street around the courthouse was the worst. The paving is of concrete and adds much to the appearance of the town.

In the summer of 1912 the town council decided upon an additional paving of about one mile, of concrete. The contract was made with D. W. Wright & Company, of Bedford. This contract was taken at ten cents less per square yard than that of 1911.

The City of Greenfield has altogether a little over two miles of concrete pavement.

## ELECTRICITY

The electric light plant of Greenfield first started operations in 1890. The following is the first report of the income and expense of the plant from 1890 to January 1, 1892: Total cost of coal, \$681.60; freight on same, \$362.79; hauling from depot, \$103.33; engineer's salary, \$621.35; oil and waste, \$72.34; supplies, \$27.60; hauling and pumping water, \$22.22; insurance, \$30; total, \$1,921.33. Lamp rentals collected, \$2,598.09; lamp rentals uncollected, \$74.25; total, \$2,672.34. The balance was \$751.01 on the income side of the ledger. The report was signed by A. Rivenburgh, the engineer in charge. The electric light plant of Greenfield has gradually extended its service, until now it is a very prosperous institution, supplying light to Fontanelle as well as to Greenfield.

In October, 1912, the question of changing the current from direct to alternate came before the people. The town believed that the plant should be re-equipped to make provision for future demands and to provide better service. An election was called to decide whether or not to authorize the city council to issue \$9,000 in bonds in order to make the necessary changes. At the election 431 votes were cast, resulting in a majority of 256 for the improvement and the issue of the bonds. There were 159 men voting at this election and 161 women.



EAST SIDE SQUARE, GREENFIELD



OPERA HOUSE, GREENFIELD



In November, 1910, the City of Greenfield, by the medium of the council, decided to erect ornamental electroliers around the public square. The McDonald Iron Works of Des Moines supplied the posts, each supporting five lights. There are sixteen posts around the square with a total of eighty lights. It is the intention to continue these lights into the residence districts at some future date.

#### LIBRARY

The first talk of establishing a free public library in Greenfield occurred in July, 1896, but the plan never materialized. Although there has ever been a need of a good library in the town, particularly for its educational advantages, a certain proportion of the population have been opposed to it. The reason for this antagonism is vague, for it cannot be conceived how a progressive people, interested in the welfare of their children and at all careful of their own enlightenment in the way of world knowledge and progress of current events, should be blind to the advantages of a public library. However, the question was again agitated in the spring of 1915 and the proposition submitted to the vote of the people. The election was held in the fore part of April of that year and resulted in carrying the issue by a majority of seventy-five. It is interesting to note that the vote polled by the women was responsible for the needed improvement. The women voted 180 to 68 for the library, while the men voted 158 to 124 against the same. It was indeed fortunate for the Town of Greenfield that the women had the privilege of the ballot-box at this time.

Steps are under way to organize the library under the regulations of the statutes and funds will be obtained from Andrew Carnegie, the steel king, who has financially backed thousands of libraries in the United States.

#### LODGES, SOCIETIES AND CLUBS

Crusade Lodge No. 386, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, located at Greenfield, was organized July 5, 1878, with the following charter members: J. G. Culver, John J. Hetherington, J. T. Harvey, J. E. Howe, D. W. Marquart, J. A. Hetherington, S. M. Shattuck, W. H. Romesha, C. B. Hunt, R. O. Brown, W. M. Rodgers, A. J. Mears, R. Wallace, E. R. Olmstead, W. B. Burget and Joseph Raffensperger. The following were the first officers elected: J. J.

Hetherington, worshipful master; J. E. Howe, senior warden; D. W. Marquart, junior warden. The first regular convocation was held on the evening of July 20th and the following appointments made to fill the other offices: C. B. Hunt, treasurer; J. G. Culver, secretary; J. A. Hetherington, senior deacon; W. H. Romesha, junior deacon; A. J. Mears, tyler; W. B. Burget, S. S.; J. T. Harvey, J. S.

Greenfield Council No. 2, O. U. A. M., was organized under the jurisdiction of the national council on August 31, 1882, with about eighteen members. The charter bears the date of August 18, 1882, and is signed by G. H. Burton, N. C. and James N. Caldys and has the names of the following charter members: W. L. Scott, H. G. Spooner, A. J. Shrader, W. H. Romesha, Adam Beck, D. A. Coy, W. C. Carroll, D. A. Hites, C. E. Taylor, J. C. Purvis, J. C. Walker, James Murray, H. D. Woodman, George F. Arnold, J. W. McCormick, G. E. Inlow, C. N. Wilson, D. D. Pettit, B. E. Keen, A. T. Gregg, R. D. Critchfield, G. T. Porter, F. Hostetler, M. B. Packer and W. E. Hetherington.

Greenfield Lodge No. 375, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted on January 30, 1878, by A. L. Tullus, most worthy grand master, with the following charter members: James Patterson, P. Hillyard, A. F. Porter, J. A. Burrell, C. S. Burrell. The first officers were: P. Hillyard, noble grand; C. S. Burrell, vice grand; J. J. Hetherington, secretary; A. F. Porter, treasurer.

The Masonic and Odd Fellows Building Association was incorporated on February 20, 1883, by the two orders. The following were the first officers: J. J. Hetherington, president; A. E. Teague, vice president; J. E. Hill, secretary and treasurer; F. M. Brown, J. H. F. Balderson, D. W. Marquart, J. J. Hetherington, J. N. Haddock, P. Hillyard, W. C. Libby, A. E. Teague and J. E. Howe, directors. Homer Gaines erected the first story of a brick building, and the association built the second story, with the object of having a lodge room of their own. A stage was fitted up and it was then known as the Greenfield Opera House.

Garfield Encampment No. 110, of the same order, was organized November 10, 1882. The charter members were: W. C. Libby, A. E. Teague, F. M. Brown, J. H. F. Balderson and S. Condon.

Myers' Post No. 39, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized on April 28, 1881, with the following members: W. H. Romesha, M. W. Haver, J. C. Mason, J. C. Purvis, L. C. Elliott, Charles E. Taylor, Myron Bunce, W. P. Robinson, C. B. Hunt, H. A. Gilbert,



T. A. Wilson, L. J. Gray, G. C. Havens, S. G. Long, T. M. Ewing, R. M. Quinn, C. D. Knapp, M. S. Doane, C. E. Morris, F. Letz, W. H. Anderson, A. L. Harrison, M. E. Black, J. T. Harvey, M. N. Boardman and J. A. Easton. The first post commander was W. H. Romesha.

Legion of Honor was organized in Greenfield on January 24, 1881, with the following charter members: F. H. Wilson, A. R. Dew, J. G. Goodman, Charles Arnold, M. W. Haver, J. A. McElhane, F. P. Culverson, J. E. Hill, W. H. Anderson, W. H. Harrison, John Derby, Charles Taylor, J. A. Easton, J. C. Trenor, John H. Stoe, J. B. Heacock, J. B. Mather, J. E. Mather, N. T. Gadd, J. A. Hetherington.

Company B, Third Regiment, Iowa National Guard, was organized in 1879 through the exertions of C. B. Hunt, the state senator from this district. The first officers were as follows: C. B. Hunt, captain; Thomas H. Ruth, first lieutenant; P. Hillyard, second lieutenant; and W. H. Romesha, orderly sergeant.

The G. A. R. Circle was organized in Greenfield in January, 1914. It is composed of women relatives and wives of Civil war veterans. The first offices were held by the following: Mesdames C. A. Gibbs, R. M. Quinn, Robert Wilson, W. C. Smith, John Luers, Marion Young, B. H. Kenworthy, Lester Smith, and Misses Edna Gibbs, Mary Woods and Louise Gibbs.

Martha Rebekah Lodge No. 37 was organized on March 5, 1890, with twenty-one men and twenty-two women. Dr. T. W. Mulhern was the first noble grand and Mrs. George Condon the first vice grand; Mrs. O. A. Tuttle was the first secretary. The order at present is the largest in the City of Greenfield, having 150 members. This lodge has also instituted lodges at Orient and Bridgewater. Several members of the order have held state offices in the same.

Myers Woman's Relief Corps was organized March 3, 1888, with about twenty members. Ella C. Knapp was the first president and served six years. The corps now has a membership of eighty-four.

#### THE CREAMERY INDUSTRY

The first creamery for co-operative butter manufacture was established by Henry Wallace and Ross on land in Orient Township owned by the former, which creamery was managed by the latter. Mr. Wallace is now the veteran editor of Wallace's Farmer of Des Moines and was a member of the commission appointed by President

Roosevelt to inquire into the conditions of the country life. He owned at the time of the creamery building in 1881 several farms in Adair County and published a farm paper at Winterset. The creamery was not a success and was discontinued in two or three years.

George Hoisington built the second creamery at Fontanelle in 1882. He was an expert butter maker from Wisconsin, but the conditions under which the business was conducted at that time were unfavorable and after some years of strenuous endeavor the plant failed.

The Stewart brothers and Shannon undertook to re-establish the business and built fine brick buildings at Fontanelle and Bridgewater, with several stations in the country. They did a big business for several years, but finally went to the wall as a result of fierce competition developed by the increased business.

On May 14, 1900, the Greenfield Creamery Company was started, with James F. Laude as manager. At this time there were several other creameries in the county and at nearby points, but owing to the large growth of the Greenfield plant all of these have ceased business. The business for the first year amounted to \$60,000 and in 1914 totaled the sum of \$112,000. Four years ago the egg business was added. The creamery is supplied with cream by the farmers of the county. With the exception of small shipments to the towns in Adair County all the products of this creamery are freighted to New York, to the George M. Rittenhouse Company, commission merchants. Four men are employed in the plant, including the efficient manager, Mr. Laude. The brick building was constructed in the year 1900.

## CHAPTER X

### SUMMERSET TOWNSHIP AND FONTANELLE

Summerset Township comprises all of Congressional Township 75 north, range 32 west of the fifth principal meridian. The surface is generally rolling, with a few ravines in the vicinity of the streams. The soil is rich and loamy and well watered. The east branch of the Nodaway River enters it on the northwest quarter of section 1, and intersecting sections 2, 11 and 14 in a southerly course, it changes to a southwesterly direction and crossing sections 15, 22, 21, 28, 33 passes into Richland Township on the south line of section 32.

#### SETTLEMENT

The first person to settle in this township was one Collins, who located on section 2 in the spring or early summer of 1854. He did not remain in this territory for very long, but a grove of trees in that vicinity was named after him. He had signed a note with some men in Madison before he came to Adair County, and the others having fallen out with him, maliciously entered a suit for forgery against him. They sent Otto Davis, the sheriff of Madison County, to arrest Collins. He was incarcerated in the Madison County jail for six months and then went to trial before the District Court, where he was immediately found not guilty and discharged. On coming home he found that his wife had left him and was living with another man. He then left the country and nothing more was heard of him.

James C. Gibbs was the first man to make a permanent settlement in the township. On June 18, 1855, the sale of lots in the Town of Fontanelle was begun and Gibbs purchased the lots on the north-east of the square, where he at once constructed a large log cabin. In August of the same year he brought his family here to live. For a few years Gibbs ran a hotel in this log structure. This was the first hotel in Fontanelle.

D. M. Valentine bought the lots immediately west of those purchased by Gibbs, built a residence, and thus became the second permanent settler. He was a prominent attorney of the county and afterwards was upon the Supreme bench in the State of Kansas.

Gorton N. Bennett came to Adair County August 17, 1855, and was employed until 1857 by J. C. Gibbs as a farm hand. He married Hulda Lee, the first school teacher in Fontanelle.

John Lockhart was the next to settle here, coming in the fall of 1855. He located on section 6, where he lived a year or so, and then removed to Kansas. He was a native of Ohio.

Azariah Root located in Fontanelle in 1855, where he lived for some time. J. K. Valentine came from Vigo County, Ind., in 1855 and settled in Fontanelle.

In 1856 Cal Ballard came and rented the building later used as a postoffice, and placed therein a general stock of merchandise which he had brought from Winterset. This building was constructed and owned by J. K. Valentine. The next year Ballard built a store of his own. In 1859 he sold this to J. C. Gibbs and moved back to Winterset, remaining two or three years, then going to his former home in Indiana for two years stay, when he returned to Winterset and engaged in the dry goods business. When George B. Wilson was elected clerk of the court in 1857 and refused to serve, the judge appointed Cal Ballard in his place.

The next man to come was J. D. Nichols, who located at Fontanelle in August, 1856. He was a native of Massachusetts and a carpenter by trade. He lived here for about three years and then went to St. Joseph, Mo. He enlisted in the army at the beginning of the Civil war and won high honors, being placed in the service of the regular United States Army at the close of hostilities.

About the same time Theodore Smith and his brother-in-law, Rev. James Walker, came from Connecticut and took up their residence in the Village of Fontanelle. Walker was the first minister of the gospel to make his home in this county. After living here for about four years they left, Walker going to Michigan and Smith to New York.

W. B. Hall settled in Fontanelle in the autumn of 1856. He was afterwards elected clerk of the courts and served for ten years. He later went to Seattle, Wash.

A. B. Smith, a carpenter, came to Fontanelle in the winter of 1856-7 and lived here until 1860. In the spring of 1858 he was elected clerk of the courts and held that position until the fall of



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF FONTANELLE





the same year. He left here and went to Winterset, where he subsequently died.

Samuel Marquart came from Wayne County, Indiana, in 1857, and made settlement in Fontanelle.

William Lytle made a settlement on section 17 in 1857. He was a native of Ohio. In 1861 he removed to Madison County, from which place he enlisted in the army and during his term of service was fatally stricken with disease.

About the year 1857 Samuel W. Armstrong settled in the new Village of Fontanelle. He was a native of Pottsville, Schuylkill County, Pa., and in the year 1856 had come to Adair County from Des Moines and had stayed for two years at Greenfield. He was an attorney by profession. He served for four years as county treasurer. Mr. Armstrong committed suicide in 1866 or 1867. His wife was a daughter of W. H. Brainard, another old settler.

J. J. Crittenden came to the township and settled in the Town of Fontanelle in 1857 and was made postmaster. In 1858 he was arrested for robbing the mail, was tried and convicted and sent to the penitentiary for a term of five years. He was pardoned by President Lincoln after he had served two years, whereupon he returned to Fontanelle, lived three years, and then moved to Missouri.

Abram Miller located in Fontanelle in the winter of 1857-8 and lived here for several years. He finally returned to Indiana, his native state.

Alden Smith came to the town in 1857, but after several years' residence, removed to Winterset, where he died.

Abram Platt located in Fontanelle in 1857 and constructed a house which he afterwards sold, and he removed to Missouri.

Rev. Joseph Mather, from West Virginia, came to Fontanelle in the spring of 1878 directly from Marion County, Ia. He was the first Congregational minister in Adair County. He died in 1862 at Fontanelle.

The next settler was Dr. T. M. Moore, who came in 1858, and settled in the village, there practicing his profession.

John Lentz, a native of South Carolina, came from Indiana in 1860 and made a settlement near the Village of Fontanelle.

Titus Sullivan settled on a farm near Fontanelle in the early '60s and raised quite a family. He was a soldier in the Mexican war.

Briggs Alden, a soldier of the War of 1812, and a Mormon preacher, was an early resident of Fontanelle, where he preached occasionally. He died when nearly one hundred years of age.

James Baker, another Mormon elder and a lieutenant in a company of the Second New Hampshire Infantry in the Civil war, was an early resident. He now lives in Lamoni, Ia. The Mormons at Fontanelle belonged to the Joseph Smith branch of the church, although for a time some of them were in Utah Territory.

Dr. Nelson Bates emigrated from New York among the followers of Joseph Smith and located at Nauvoo, Ill., and was there at the time Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum, were mobbed and murdered at the Carthage jail. He, with his family, were among the crowds which followed the fortunes of Brigham Young. They took the long, toilsome journey across the plains to Salt Lake and there lived for several years. Afterwards, repudiating Young, he was obliged to fly for his life and with his family succeeded in getting away from the Mormon rule and recrossed the plains by team some years before the railroad was built west of Omaha. On reaching Fontanelle he settled there. This was about 1866. He then practiced medicine until his death. He had two sons in the Civil war, one of whom died soon after his return from the army at Fontanelle; the other, Francis M. Bates, became a teacher after the war in a high school in Shamokin, Pa. He came to Fontanelle about 1880 and for a time taught the high school here, also served as county surveyor for some years. He now lives in Iowa City. His oldest daughter, born in the county, married a Methodist minister and the family for some years prior to 1914, were missionaries at Paraguay, South America.

Samuel Marquart was long identified with the fortunes of Fontanelle. He was a gold seeker in the Pike's Peak excitement, crossed the plains with ox wagons like most of the gold seekers of that time, and returned "busted." He stopped at Fontanelle, where for many years he farmed, raised stock quite extensively, had a general store and was one of the leading persons in business. In the early days of the Klondike rush he, with D. W. Marquart, his nephew, ex-auditor of the county, undertook to get through to Dawson by way of White Horse Pass, but the snows of the mountains proved too great an obstacle. Some of the party gave out and the rest finally got back, but D. W. Marquart did not long survive. Samuel Marquart went to Lake Arthur, La., where he bought a large tract of rice land and engaged extensively in raising rice, irrigating with large steam pumps. He also extensively developed his town property, of which he is a large owner. He is represented to be hale and hearty today at the age of about eighty years.

Abram Rutt helped to survey the Town of Fontanelle and was one of the first carpenters to build houses from the native lumber. He freighted supplies with several ox teams to Denver during the Pike's Peak rush. He was a leading merchant in Fontanelle for many years and was part proprietor of the Fontanelle Register, the only paper published in Adair County for ten years, was owner of a section of land in Walnut Township which he afterwards developed into one of the best farms in the county. He bought a large interest in a big distillery at Atlantic, Ia., but the law and sentiment of prohibition put this out of business. He started and conducted during his life a bank at Casey, first as a private bank, afterwards the Abram Rutt National Bank, which was very successful. He died in 1914, leaving a large estate and large bequest to educational and charitable institutions.

G. F. Kilburn came to Fontanelle in 1858 from Des Moines, where he had studied law with C. C. Cole, afterwards a judge in the Supreme Court. Kilburn practiced law, edited the Fontanelle Register, the latter for ten years or more, or until the Greeley campaign of 1872, when the paper was sold to a syndicate and run in the interest of the democratic party for some years by James Rany. G. F. Kilburn served in the Twelfth General Assembly, representing the counties of Adair, Cass and Montgomery in the House of Representatives. Upon the removal of the county seat he moved to Creston and there practiced law until his death in 1883.

Col. James Rany, another early settler in Fontanelle, served in the War of the Rebellion and rose to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in an Illinois regiment. After the war he removed to Adair County and was elected county clerk in 1868, beating W. B. Hall by one or two votes and getting the office only after a contest and recount. He remained in Fontanelle as a farmer, stock raiser and shipper, editor and other positions until he moved to Marengo, Ia., where he died several years ago. He was at one time democratic candidate for representative.

G. F. Kilburn was born in Boscawen, N. H., in 1834. He came to Des Moines, Ia., in the hard times of 1857, where he taught school and studied law with C. C. Cole who was afterward Supreme Court justice. G. F. Kilburn moved to Fontanelle in the fall of 1858, forming a law and land office partnership with S. W. Armstrong. Later the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Kilburn developed a good business in land and tax paying in addition to the law business to which he still clung. He was a partner in the general store of

Kilburn, Rutt & Company for a year or more and for ten or a dozen years was editor and proprietor with Abram Rutt of the Fontanelle Register, the first paper published in the county. He was county treasurer in 1864-65. He was elected representative to the General Assembly in 1867 and served in the Twelfth General Assembly. He was also for several years a trustee of the state agricultural college. In 1875 his wife, Jennie A. Mather, was the victim of a fearful accident, being burned to death by a kerosene explosion. The same fall he removed to Creston, where he opened a law office. He was largely interested in the Creston and Northern Railroad, was secretary of the company formed to build it, and was principal agent for securing the right of way. This road was afterward taken over by the Burlington people. He died at Creston in 1883, from tuberculosis contracted while working for the railroad people.

James Rany came to Fontanelle soon after the War of the Rebellion. He had served in an Illinois regiment and rose to the rank of colonel, but was obliged to resign before the close of the war on account of ill health. He served two terms as clerk of the court for Adair County. In the campaign of 1872 he joined the democratic party in support of Horace Greeley for president and in company with several others purchased the Fontanelle Register and changed the politics of the paper. He was also democratic candidate for representative in 1873. He later bought the interests of the other partners in the paper and conducted it alone, finally moving it to Stuart and published the sheet there for part of a year. After he had sold the plant he returned to Fontanelle and engaged in shipping stock for some years later going to Marengo where he died.

N. S. Taylor was one of the very early settlers, for some years keeping a stage station on the Des Moines and Council Bluffs route, two miles west of what is now Fontanelle. He moved to Fontanelle after its location and lived there many years. He and his wife celebrated their golden anniversary in 1889 and a few years afterward he moved to Casey to live with his daughter, where he died. J. M. Joseph came to Fontanelle from Ohio about 1866 and was deputy treasurer under T. M. Moore, and afterwards engaged in the land business and as county surveyor. He moved to Creston and purchased a large farm near there which he conducted for some years. He was the populist candidate for governor in 1893. He served one or more terms as clerk of the courts in Union County and later moved to Colorado.





STREET SCENE, FONTANELLE



SOUTH SIDE SQUARE, FONTANELLE



John H. Bailey was an early settler in Fontanelle, in law partnership with W. B. Hall who was clerk of the court in 1867. Mr. Bailey was a strong democratic politician and was elected county auditor in 1871. He was the principal in a famous lawsuit in which the county sought to recover moneys which it is claimed he had failed to account for. The trial lasted nearly three weeks and resulted in only a small judgment against Bailey. After the removal of the county seat from Fontanelle he emigrated to Kansas, where he became a judge before he died.

One of the most prominent early settlers of Fontanelle was Henry Grass, an attorney, who came there in 1867 from Illinois. He was a fluent speaker and strong political worker for the republican party. He was very much interested in horticulture and town improvement and served several terms as mayor. He moved to Texas where he is still living at a ripe old age, and still active in public duties.

Wesley Taylor served in a Pennsylvania regiment during the Rebellion and came to Adair County at the expiration of his term of service. He was county superintendent one term and recorder three terms, was engaged in business several times at Fontanelle and had a farm at the edge of town on which he lived. He was part owner of the Farmers Bank, a private institution which unfortunately failed in 1890, a serious blow to the interests of Fontanelle. Mr. Taylor emigrated to Oklahoma and was in the first run for locations when that territory was opened for settlement. He secured lots in the new plat of Perry, where he built a home and became quite prominent. He met sudden death while on public duty in that state.

William B. Martin was a native of Vermont, was there reared and educated, and followed teaching and farming until the spring of 1867, when he went to Henry County, Ill. In April, 1869, he came to Adair County, and located on section 5, Jefferson Township, and there farmed and taught school until his election to the office of county auditor in 1874, wherein he served two terms. He was clerk of Jefferson Township for several years and was for a number of years a member of the city council of Greenfield. Mr. Martin was elected to represent Adair County in the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth General Assemblies, and subsequently was secretary of the state of Iowa for three terms. He is president of the Iowa Trust and Savings Bank at Des Moines at the present time.

John A. Storey, attorney, is a native of Pennsylvania, farmed and taught school in his home state, and in 1874 graduated from Washington and Jefferson College, Pa. After leaving school he

taught until the summer of 1875, then came to Iowa and located in Greenfield, Adair County, and the next year was admitted to the bar. He was sent to the Legislature in 1883, representing Adair County two terms there. He was also appointed judge to fill a vacancy by Goad Jackson in 1898, serving the balance of the term. He afterward removed to Omaha, Neb., where he continued in the practice of law for some years. He then went to Indianola, Ia., and engaged in the banking business.

Captain Charles Stuart was born in Vermont and in 1867-68 he purchased several large tracts of land in Adair County. He laid out the town which bears his name on the Rock Island Railroad in December, 1867, and contributed much to the early growth of that place. In 1873 he founded the Town of Adair, where for more than ten years he carried on an extensive business. The development of Lincoln Township in Adair County was largely responsible to Captain Stuart.

#### FIRST THINGS

The first marriage in Summerset Township occurred on June 15, 1857, and was that of Homer Penfield and Martha Campbell.

The first death was that of Justice A., the son of James C. and Phoebe L. Gibbs, who died on September 29, 1860. This was the first person buried in the Fontanelle cemetery.

The first school was taught by Miss Hulda Lee in 1857 in the Town of Fontanelle.

The first sermon was preached in the fall of 1856 by Rev. James Walker at his own house.

The first child born was a son of Daniel M. Valentine and wife, in April, 1856, at Fontanelle.

#### ORGANIZATION

Summerset Township was organized in the spring of 1856 and the first election was held on the first Monday in April of the same year. This election was held at the house of D. M. Valentine, on the north side of the square, in the Village of Fontanelle. The first officers were as follows: Jacob Eby, Alfred Jones and Joshua E. Chapman, trustees; D. M. Valentine, clerk; J. C. Gibbs and Azariah Root, justices; Abraham Rutt, assessor; Gorton H. Bennett, road supervisor; James S. Ewing and G. N. Bennett, constables. The

first meeting of the board of trustees was held on March 15, 1857; by many people this record is doubted.

#### BEGINNING AT FONTANELLE

The story of the birth of the Town of Fontanelle has been related in another part of this history. However, the fundamental facts will bear repeating. The General Assembly of Iowa appointed special commissioners to designate a seat of justice for Adair County and in the spring of 1855 these commissioners met and selected the spot now known as Fontanelle. The county judge, G. M. Holaday, thereupon journeyed to Council Bluffs, to the land office, and entered in the name of the county the southwest quarter of section 17, township 75, range 32. On this the original town, consisting of thirty-one blocks, was laid out and under the name of Summerset was platted and placed upon the records of the county on May 30, 1855, in the name of Adair County. On June 18th of the same year the lots were placed in the market and the sale of them started. The name of Summerset was shortly afterward discarded in favor of Fontanelle, although the first time the town is mentioned by that name on the records is under the date of June, 1857.

The first house was constructed by James C. Gibbs in the summer of 1855. It was built of logs and was for a time used as a hotel. The second house to be built in the village was that of D. M. Valentine, during the same year.

#### EARLY BUSINESS INTERESTS

The first goods to be sold in Fontanelle were owned by Cal Ballard. He opened a general merchandise store in 1856 in a small building built by James K. Valentine, and which was later used as a postoffice. He conducted his business for about a year and then sold out to Abram Rutt, of Casey, who moved the goods from the town.

The second merchant was James C. Gibbs, who purchased the Ballard store and stock and conducted the business during the years 1859 and 1860.

The first hardware store in the town was started in 1871 by F. A. Blystone.



John S. Sherdeman began the implement business here in 1879.

The pioneer blacksmith in Fontanelle was Charles White, who opened a shop in the east part of the town. The second was Alfred Jones.

#### BANKS

The Farmers' Bank of Fontanelle was instituted in the spring of 1879 by James L. and B. Lombard, both gentlemen from Galesburg, Ill. J. M. Osterlind was their cashier. In 1880 they sold the building to Wesley Taylor, R. E. Ewing and J. C. Gibbs and then removed from this county. The three new proprietors at once started upon the banking business and chose the following officers for the first: James C. Gibbs, president; R. E. Ewing, vice president; Wesley Taylor, cashier. In the autumn of 1882 J. C. Gibbs sold his interests in the bank to his partners, who continued it until September, 1883, when a new organization was effected by J. H. Hulbert, of Fontanelle, and James Jackson, of Chicago, each purchasing a fourth interest. In 1882 a fine building was erected on lot 1, block 26. This bank failed in March, 1893, with almost a total loss to depositors.

The Exchange Bank of Fontanelle was started in the early '80s. D. Heaton was the president and Alexander M. Gow the cashier. In 1883 the institution constructed a bank building on the corner of Main and Washington streets, at the southwest corner of the square. This bank was reorganized as the First National Bank on January 1, 1904, with first officers as follows: J. S. Hulbert, president; J. H. Hulbert, vice president; W. F. Johnson, cashier; R. R. Tuttle, assistant cashier. The bank has had a steady and reliable growth since this time and enjoys the fullest confidence of its patrons. The capital stock is \$25,000, the surplus \$10,000 and the deposits average \$225,000. J. F. Baudler is president; C. D. Walsworth, vice president; E. R. Faurote, vice president; and W. A. Addison, cashier.

The State Savings Bank of Fontanelle was organized on August 26, 1905, by C. A. Baker, Charles T. Launder, Henry Hyda, W. J. Simpson, Dr. C. B. Scott, L. M. Lyons and D. N. Dunlap. The first officers were: L. M. Lyons, president; Charles T. Launder, vice president; C. A. Baker, cashier. The present officers of the institution are: Charles T. Launder, president; Henry Hyda, vice president; C. A. Baker, cashier; H. J. Stuhlmiller, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$10,000, the surplus \$5,000, and the deposits average \$130,000. The building was erected by C. A. Baker prior

to the organization of the bank at a cost of \$3,200. This young institution has a good patronage and well merits the esteem and confidence of the people.

#### THE FONTANELLE OBSERVER

In February, 1879, the Gow Brothers established a paper with the above name in Fontanelle. The paper was a seven column folio with patent outside and had a small patronage. James M. Gow, who was at that time editor of the Adair County Reporter at Greenfield, had editorial charge of the paper. They continued as proprietors until February 27, 1881, when it passed into the hands of M. A. Rany. During his ownership Will Pruitt also ran the paper under lease for a few years. In August, 1894, W. H. McClure became the owner and publisher of the Observer and continues in this capacity in 1915. Illness at this time prevents his active attention to the sheet, but this is ably supplied by his son, D. D. McClure. A handsome brick building, a cut of which is appended, was erected in June, 1913, at a cost of \$2,000. The paper is issued on Thursday of each week and is an eight page, six column sheet. The Observer plant also does an extensive job printing business.

#### DEFUNCT PAPERS

The Fontanelle Register was first established in 1862 by J. C. Gibbs and soon afterwards was sold to Kilburn & Rutt who conducted it until 1872, when it went into the hands of James Rany and others. It was edited for a few months by Mr. Caton, then county superintendent of schools, afterwards by Mr. Rany who finally moved the plant to Stuart. Later it was brought back to Fontanelle and conducted by M. A. Rany, a son of the former editor, under the name of the Observer. The story of the paper from this point is in the leading paragraph.

Gow Brothers & Gibbs established the Fontanelle Reporter in 1879; J. M. Gow was the editor. A year or two later Gibbs sold his interest to the Gows who removed the paper and press to Greenfield after the county seat was moved to that place and continued its publication until some years after, when it was merged with the Transcript and continued under that name.

## MUNICIPAL GROWTH

When the county seat was removed from Fontanelle to Greenfield there were many who predicted that it would mean the end of the town, that it would deteriorate and crumble into decay. The opposite has been the case. Business has thrived and has reached a very high point, in fact, equal to any other town in the county. The reason for this, principally, is the live spirit of the citizens, their desire to make the town prosperous and to create a community of interest, civic improvement and financial welfare. Illustrative of this progressive attitude was the formation of the Fontanelle Commercial Club on July 1, 1914 by the business men. The first officers of this organization were: E. W. Adams, president; W. A. Addison, vice president; H. J. Stuhlmiller, secretary; and C. A. Baker, treasurer. The club has continued to boost the town and is a strong factor in the success of Fontanelle.

In 1913 the city erected a system of water works, which cost them the sum of \$20,000. The contract was let to the Alamo Engine and Supply Company of Omaha, Neb. Wells were dug and a water tower erected which has a capacity of 50,000 gallons.

Electricity is supplied by the Greenfield plant. Fontanelle owns its own transmission line and has the benefit of continual service. There are forty-nine street lights and twelve five-light ornamental electroliers.

Another notable improvement of the year 1913 was the erection of a \$2,500 town hall.

## POSTOFFICE

The postoffice of Fontanelle was established in the spring of 1856 and James C. Gibbs was commissioned postmaster. The postmasters since this time have been: Cal Ballard, J. J. Crittenden, R. O. Brown, A. Root, F. B. Marquart, M. M. Rutt, F. B. Marquart, M. A. Rany, J. Bahlman, George Rodgers, W. H. McClure for sixteen years, and J. Sullivan.

The story of the robbery of mails committed by Crittenden is related elsewhere.

On July 1, 1884, the office was made an international money order office.

## FIRST HOTELS

It has been noted that James C. Gibbs kept a pioneer hotel in his own house. The first hotel built for the purpose was the Pacific



EAST SIDE SQUARE, FONTANELLE





House erected in 1859 by J. K. Valentine, who ran it for several years. The Gibbs House was built by James C. Gibbs in 1870 and conducted by him for about a year. The Bradfield House was erected in March, 1879, by A. N. Bradfield.

#### FIRST INDUSTRIES

In 1881 a steam elevator was constructed by Daniel N. Dunlap. He came here for the purpose of purchasing grain and the first thing he did was to erect this elevator. A flouring mill was built in 1880, being a frame structure, three stories in height. A creamery was started in 1882.

#### INCORPORATION

The Town of Fontanelle was incorporated in September, 1881, and the following were the first officers elected: F. A. Blystone, mayor; John J. Hetherington, recorder; A. A. Powers, J. Spain, M. L. Bates, George Miller and Samuel Marquart, members of the council. The first meeting of the council was held at the office of the mayor on September 27, 1871, and the first ordinance passed was relative to the appointment of a marshal and a treasurer. Alfred Drake was chosen as marshal and Nelson Bates as treasurer.

#### ORGANIZATIONS

Fontanelle Lodge No. 138, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, applied to the grand master for a dispensation to organize a lodge on June 27, 1858, signed by the following master Masons: Cal Ballard, J. W. Stinman and Azariah Root. The first regular communication of the lodge was held on August 21, 1858, and the following named were the officers: Cal Ballard, worshipful master; J. W. Stinman, senior warden; Azariah Root, junior warden; J. C. Gibbs, treasurer; F. H. Whitney, secretary; John Bixley, senior deacon; William Lytle, junior deacon; Jacob Eby, tyler.

St. John's Chapter No. 73, Royal Arch Masons, was organized under a dispensation granted May 22, 1874. The dispensation was signed by R. F. Brown, G. H. P. of the R. A. C. of Iowa. The first meeting was held on the evening of June 8th following. The original members were: J. C. Gibbs, A. M. Norman, W. M. Rodgers, Fleming Saunders, John Taylor, W. Taylor, J. M. Gow, John J. Hetherington and T. M. Moore.

Fontanelle Lodge No. 250, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized January 17, 1873, with the following charter members: Abram Roberts, John Lattus, C. M. Staley, Peter L. Rice, Samuel Maple. The first officers were elected as follows: Abram Roberts, noble grand; John Lattus, vice grand; C. M. Staley, recording secretary; P. L. Rice, treasurer.

Rustic Lodge No. 98, Iowa Legion of Honor, was organized on January 1, 1881, with the following as charter members: James A. Wilson, P. McDermid, L. J. Slocum, C. B. Scott, George A. Davis, P. R. Adams, Robert H. Fox, W. O. Ludlow, W. H. England, W. H. Simmons, A. W. Jacobs, J. W. Holmes, A. S. Venen, Leander W. Wood, Benjamin F. Bennighoff, L. S. Davis and A. O. Longnecker.

Lentz Post No. 121, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized on April 6, 1883, with the following comrades as charter members: Samuel B. Yeats, W. O. Ludlow, William Rife, Abner Root, Ithamer Watkins, James Raney, Frederick Gerry, John Puntney, Adam Feiler, D. N. Dunlap, James McCampbell, W. F. Myers, W. E. Duncan, C. C. Evans, E. W. Ward, Jonathan Childs. The first post commander was D. N. Dunlap.

The soldiers of the Rebellion living in and about Fontanelle at the present time are: J. J. Campbell, Flay Remine, D. Edwards, L. W. Wood, D. C. Chapman, C. C. Evans, Caleb Eddy, Twombly, Charles Scofield, J. F. Templeman and Robert Sproul. Those buried in Fontanelle cemetery are: J. D. Hetherington, George Lents, Jonathan Childs, Timmons, J. Watkins, C. B. Scott, B. Dwinnelle, Egbert Hawks, Adam Feiler, D. W. Marquart, Art Colwell, Nelson Bates, Jr., W. J. Jacobs, D. N. Dunlap, C. Pettit, Green, Harvey Johnson, D. W. Prewitt, Willis, D. Carver. Those in other cemeteries are: Richland, Thomas Ewing and Abe Smith; Jackson: Abner Root; Prussia, Henry Walton; Eureka, Henry Bloomfield. There are also buried Briggs Alden, a soldier of the War of 1812; Titus Sullivan, of the Mexican war; and Fred Carver of the Spanish-American war.

## CHAPTER XI

### ORIENT TOWN AND TOWNSHIP

Orient Township occupies the space of a full congressional township. The watershed of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers traverses the township from the northwest to the southeast corner and on either side of this several streams find their source. The two principal streams are the Nodaway and the Nine Mile Run, together with their branches. The Nodaway flows to the southwest, while Nine Mile Run takes a northeasterly course. The only timber in the township is found along the banks of the Nine Mile Run.

#### ORGANIZATION

The official organization of Orient Township occurred on June 7, 1869. It was organized as Dayton Township, but not long afterwards changed to its present name, by a petition to the board of supervisors of Adair County, in September following the organization, and signed by the leading citizens of the township. The first election was held in October, 1869, and the officers chosen were: Judson Morgan and W. H. Strong, justices; J. L. Leggett, clerk; T. N. Thatcher, W. A. Jennings, constables; R. Schweers, R. Dillow, H. Launder, trustees; R. L. Johnson, road supervisor; there was a tie vote between J. C. Hoffstatter and N. Harris for the office of assessor.

#### EARLY SETTLERS

The pioneer settler of the territory now known as Orient Township was Reuben Dillow, a native of Ohio, who emigrated to Iowa and entered land upon section 26 in July, 1860. Immediately he constructed a small house for himself and family. The hardships undergone by the pioneer and his family were many; their rude dwelling afforded little protection from the wind and snow; for five years their nearest neighbors were fifteen miles distant. They went

to Winterset and Afton to do their milling and to get provisions. Dillow never had any education, but learned to read and write after he was thirty years of age. He prospered in this county, however, during the early years, but in later life lost his hard earned savings through unfortunate circumstances.

Rhineheart Schweers was the second man to take up a residence in the township, settling upon section 16 during the year 1865. He remained in the township seven or eight years, after which he removed to Oregon, where he died some years later.

The third person to come to the township was Edward E. Kates, who came in the fall of 1865 and located upon section 26. He only remained here two years, when he emigrated to Tennessee.

Michael Smith came in the fall of 1866 and entered land upon Section 25.

Dr. T. L. Andrews was the pioneer physician in the township. He afterward practiced at Creston, Ia.

#### NOTES OF HISTORY

The first birth in Orient Township was that of a daughter of James and Elizabeth Welsh, in the latter part of August, 1860. The child died in October following, which was also the first death in the township. The child bore the name of Mary J.

The first marriage which occurred in the township was that of William H. Thompson and Ellen Dillow, on October 8, 1869.

Reuben Dillow plowed the first ground and sowed the first grain in the spring of 1861.

The first funeral sermon was preached by Rev. J. S. Elliott, Methodist minister at Afton, over the remains of a child of Reuben and Eliza Dillow in August, 1861.

The first house built in the township was that belonging to Dillow, which was erected in the summer of 1860.

The first Fourth of July celebration was held at a schoolhouse on Section 16 in 1869. Mrs. Hannah H. (Thatcher) Armstrong read the Declaration of Independence. She was the school teacher at that time.

The first Sunday school in the township was organized in 1869, at a schoolhouse on section 16. Dr. T. L. Andrews was elected superintendent.

The chapter on education contains the story of the early schools in Orient Township.



## TOWN OF ORIENT

The town of Orient is located almost in the geographical center of the township from which it is named. In January, 1879, the railroad reached the point on which the town was laid out in the spring of the same year. A postoffice by the same name was previously established not far distant from the place, and which was afterward removed to Orient.

The first business established was by George Peet, who located in January, 1879, erected a small elevator and began buying grain from the farmers. He also had a lumber yard, the first in town. A short time afterwards Marcus Hennesy located at this place and engaged in the coal and grain business. Following him came Collins & Young, who erected a building 22 by 46 feet, of two stories, and opened a general merchandise store. Slocum & Stowell succeeded this firm in 1880, carrying on the business until June, 1883, when Mr. Slocum succeeded the old firm. Another general stock was added to the town by Eugene H. Sprague in 1879. He previously carried on business on Middle River, but removed his stock to Orient and erected a building.

The hardware business was first represented in Orient about January, 1882, by Frank Cobb. He carried on the business for about a year, when John Peet purchased and took possession. George W. Lewis was the first blacksmith in the town. John W. Banks opened a harness shop in 1881. In 1880 John C. Hoffstatter opened a wagon and repair shop. Henry Schertinger entered the meat market business in July, 1884. The station at Orient was completed and opened for business on April 14, 1879.

Marcus Hennesy built the first dwelling house in the town. It was 24 by 24 feet in size. Josiah R. Young and family were the first to permanently locate. George Peat was the first business man to settle down here. The first child born in the community was to J. N. Colby and wife in the fall of 1879. Samuel Crumrine was the first to get married, going to Ohio for his wife.

The ground for the Orient cemetery was purchased in the fall of 1869 of Judson Morgan for \$25 and consisted of one acre, located on the southwest quarter of section 16. The body of William A. Hoffstatter was the first to be interred there.

Orient is one of the bright, prosperous towns of Adair County. In most cases the town is the outgrowth of agricultural fruition and while Orient possesses some elements of growth independent of these,



it cannot be denied that to the utilization of Nature's advantages, so plentifully distributed in its splendid surroundings, it is chiefly indebted, not alone for its existence, but also for its past successful accomplishments and its brilliant future prospects. Orient is surrounded by a magnificent country and one has but to glance over the broad expanse of the surrounding country to discover what is a truly agricultural section, a large portion of which is tributary to this town and for which it is the market place. The town is an index to the character of the country. There are hundreds of well tilled farms, numerous herds of excellent cattle, handsome and substantial farm residences, commodious stock barns and well filled granaries. As a stock and grain country the territory immediately surrounding Orient is equal to any in the state and is the reason for the large shipments of stock and grain which go from this point.

Among the better things which the town may boast of are: Two banks, three churches, several elevators and mills, a handsome new school building for the high school which was constructed in 1912 at a cost of \$13,000; a grade school building built in 1894; good hotels; and good railroad service. The business men of the town are wide awake and filled with the proper civic spirit and there is every reason to believe that in the future years Orient will have grown to be one of the foremost towns in this section of the state.

#### BANKS

The character of the banks in any community is largely a gauge to the prosperity of the people. The condition of the two banks in Orient testifies strongly as to the solid foundation upon which the community is built.

The First State Bank of Adair County, as it is termed, was opened under the name of the Bank of Orient in the spring of 1894 by Lewis Linebarger and his son, H. N. On June 2, 1895, the bank was incorporated under the present name. Lewis Linebarger was the first president; H. N. Linebarger, vice president and cashier. The capital stock was \$25,000, the same as in 1915. In 1894 a substantial brick building had been constructed for the accommodation of the bank and which cost about \$3,700. D. G. Wiley came to the bank as bookkeeper in 1896, in 1900 was elected assistant cashier, and in May, 1901, was given the office of cashier. He resigned this position in June, 1902, and C. A. Haynes was elected in the vacancy. On December 1, 1905, the interests of the bank were purchased by

the following directors and stockholders: J. T. Dalby, D. G. Wiley, E. W. Wiley, H. A. Dalby, E. E. Dalby. J. T. Dalby was chosen as president; D. G. Wiley, vice president; and C. A. Haynes, cashier. In December, 1906, J. F. Kingery took the position of cashier. A. R. Coffman is the present assistant cashier of the institution. In all business dealings the First State Bank of Adair County bears the confidence and respect of the people, which is proved by the average total of deposits for the institution, which runs at about \$170,000.

The Orient Savings Bank was organized on October 26, 1905, and the charter was issued November 7th of the same year. The first stockholders and directors of the bank were: S. L. Shreves, R. A. Shreves, C. K. Shreves, E. H. Shreves, Carrie C. Shreves, B. F. Augustine and Annie Carlyle. The first capital stock was \$10,000. S. L. Shreves was the first president; E. H. Shreves, vice president; and R. A. Shreves, cashier. On August 22, 1908, the Shreves interests were principally bought out by other stockholders and the following elected as new officers: M. W. Witham, president; A. K. Reed, first vice president; John Musmaker, second vice president; S. R. Graham, assistant cashier. On February 14, 1910, R. B. Farquhar became cashier of the bank, which position he holds at the present time. On February 19, 1910, M. W. Witham resigned the place of president of the bank and A. K. Reed was elected to fill the vacancy. On October 1, 1910, A. E. Johnson became vice president, the system of first and second vice presidents having been abolished. On March 4, 1912, the capital stock of the institution was raised from \$10,000 to \$20,000. On January 8, 1913, S. R. Graham resigned as assistant cashier and T. C. Likens was elected, who in turn resigned. There is no regular assistant cashier at the present time, but Floyd G. Mason fills the position of bookkeeper. On October 1, 1914, Eugene Tinsman was elected vice president. The surplus carried by the bank at the present time is \$6,000 and the deposits average about \$110,000. The bank building was constructed in the year 1906 and cost about \$2,700. The fixtures cost \$2,100 additional. This bank is a rapidly growing one and is well patronized by the people of Orient township and town.

#### SOCIETIES

As in most towns of the size of Orient the fraternal and social life is one of the leading factors. Among the prominent lodges are: the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Order of Eastern Star,

the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen, Yeomen, Rebeccas, Woman's Relief Corps, Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the Ladies' Monday Evening Club. The latter organization has had, perhaps, more to do with the betterment of the town than any other organization. The ladies composing the membership of this small club are united to make Orient a clean city for the youth and for their own home lives. This society is about fifteen years old. The Masonic and Odd Fellows are united into a Masonic and Odd Fellows Building Association and have a building in joint ownership, the upper part used as a lodge hall and the lower as a store.

#### NEWSPAPERS

The first newspaper to be established in Orient was The Deliberator, by Homer Dewitt, in 1895. The office was conducted in the room above the present Witham land office building. Dewitt ran this publication for a few years and then suspended for about two years. At this time A. T. Fetter came to the town, bringing his own office machinery with him, and started the Reporter. In two years Frank W. Sprague bought out the Fetter plant and continued the publication until 1901, when he sold to J. M. Triechler. J. E. Triechler acted as editor. This owner handled the paper with good success until March, 1915, when he sold out to John U. Gitzy, the present proprietor. The paper is issued weekly and is a five column quarto. The circulation is about 700.

## CHAPTER XII

### SUMMIT TOWNSHIP AND CITY OF ADAIR

The name of Summit Township was suggested by Wesley Taylor, from the fact that the ridge forming the watershed between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers passes through this township from southeast to northwest.

Middle River has a branch which has its source within the limits of this township, on sections 3 and 10, and flows in a southeasterly direction toward the main stream. The Middle Nodaway River takes its rise in sections 11 and 14, and flowing southwesterly, crosses sections 15, 22, 21, 28, 29, 32 and 31, passes into Eureka Township on the south line of the latter section. Several other branches of this stream also drain the south part of this subdivision. Turkey Creek, rising in the northern central part of the township, waters with its main stream and tributaries, sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 17 and 18. Timber has never been very plentiful in this township. The soil is rich in most of the places.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

Azariah Sisson and his son, William A., who came here in June, 1869, were undoubtedly the first settlers in Summit Township. They made a settlement on the north half of Section 16. William A. Sisson was train dispatcher for the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad at Atlantic for about two years. Azariah Sisson was born in Rensselaer County, New York, on September 16, 1822.

The next settler was Abner Sisson, a brother of Azariah. He came here from Bureau County, Ill., in 1869, and located upon the southwest quarter of section 17. This place he afterwards sold and bought the southwest quarter of Section 27. He devoted most of his life to farming and stock raising. Elmer, one of their children, was killed by a runaway team.



Next came John Chestnut, Sr. In 1870 he made a settlement on the south half of section 16 and later moved to the southeast quarter of the same section. He was a native of Virginia.

Aurel Albee came to this vicinity in 1870. He came from Bureau County, Ill., and bought 600 acres of land and located upon the south half of Section 9. About the year 1877 he moved to California, where he died in 1883.

E. M. Day was a settler of the year 1870 and owned a small building on the farm of Azariah Sisson, where he taught school in the summer of the same year.

In the autumn of 1870 Richard and William Lynam settled upon the northwest quarter of section 20. They came to this county from Galva, Ill., but only stayed here for a short time.

A. M. Todd came here in 1871 and located upon the southwest quarter of section 19. He remained here for a year and a half.

Among the early settlers of the years 1870 and 1871 were: Robert Grant, C. Enright and several others. Grant was a native of Ireland and emigrated to America when thirteen years of age. He lived in New York and Illinois prior to coming to Adair County. In 1870 he came to this county, and here lived until 1875, when he went to Eureka Township and improved a quarter section.

In the spring of 1872 Andrew and David Kingery came to the southwest quarter of section 16. They came from Lanark, Ill.

Samuel Knisely came to the township in 1880; Leroy Curtis came in 1874; John Kauffman in 1869; Alvin Thayer in 1875; James M. Johnson in 1881 and Frank Hern in 1875.

#### FIRST ITEMS

The first marriage in the township was that of Henry H. Blakesley and Mattie L. Sisson, on February 5, 1873. The ceremony was performed by Elder C. P. West at the house of the bride's father, Azariah Sisson.

The first death in the township was that of George, son of Richard Lynam. The second death was that of Elmer F. Sisson, son of Abner Sisson.

#### ORGANIZATION

Summit Township was set off from Walnut, to which it had been attached in 1871. A petition to that effect was presented to the board of supervisors of Adair County on March 11th of that year, signed



by the following persons: W. A. Sisson, Azariah Sisson, DeKalb Chestnut, A. Albee, Abner Sisson, William Lynam, John Chestnut, J. W. Chestnut, Robert Grant, C. Enright, R. H. Lynam, and T. J. Foster. In response the board granted the petition and designated the schoolhouse on section 17 as the place of holding the first election, and appointed Abner Sisson as the organizing officer. Accordingly, in October, at the general election, the following officers were chosen: John Chestnut and Aurel Albee, trustees; Azariah Sisson, justice; John W. Chestnut, clerk; John Chestnut, Sr., assessor.

#### ADAIR

The point at which the Town of Adair is located was chosen on account of it being the highest point on the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad when the latter was projected through the county. It was laid out on land belonging to George C. Tallman, of Brooklyn, New York, during the summer of 1872, and the name of Adair given to it. The plat of the town was filed for record in the office of the county recorder on August 20, 1872. The Tallman land, where the town was first laid out, on section 4, was not used to any extent for several years. The business portion of the town started on section 3, which is now the business section. The Tallman plat was called West Adair and was composed principally of residences. Nothing was done toward building the town, however, until the following summer, when the railroad put in a station and Charles Stuart constructed a lumber yard. Since that time the town has had a very comfortable growth. The census in 1873 showed a census of 18 people, and in the next year this had increased to 84, and to 150 in 1875. The present population of Adair is fixed at 1,012, census 1915.

The first dwelling house in the town was erected in the summer of 1873 by Levi Clay in West Adair. The following autumn D. E. Bancroft and John Henryson each built dwellings and in the winter H. P. Starr built. James Miller erected a small house opposite that of Starr in the same year.

#### GROWTH OF BUSINESS

The first store in the town was established by Moody & Moran of Casey in the early fall of 1873, in a building which they erected for the purpose and which was among the first buildings in the village. In 1874 the interest of S. B. Moody was purchased by James A.

Parker and the firm name changed to that of Moran & Parker. This continued until 1879 when Moran bought out his partner and ran the business alone until 1882, when M. L. McManus became a partner.

The next dealer in the line of general merchandise was V. M. Lahman. In 1874 Frank Arnold put up a building which was immediately rented by Mr. Lahman, who put in a stock of goods. After remaining in this for about a year he moved to Wiota. In 1875, just after his removal, Wilson & Patton rented the same building and put in a stock of the same line and continued until 1876, when Wilson purchased the interest of his partner and took in John Hunter. These men ran the establishment until 1878, when it was bought out by F. Furst.

On January 1, 1879, George Faga & Company commenced business at this point, opening a store for the sale of general merchandise.

The pioneer dealer in agricultural machinery was J. A. Ramsdell, who commenced business in 1874.

John Jackson began his career as agricultural implement dealer in Adair in 1881, in a building which he erected for the purpose.

D. W. Moss constructed a building and placed therein a drug stock, which he sold until 1881, when he traded it to F. L. Gordinier for a quarter section of land and then moved to Kansas. The new proprietor continued in the business until he sold out to Dr. M. F. Stults.

In June, 1877, Moss & Baldwin opened another drug store, which they later sold to Locker & Porter, who operated it until 1880, when they disposed of the store to Fayette Parsons.

Charles Stuart shipped a quantity of lumber here in the fall of 1872 and started a yard which he placed in the control of H. P. Starr.

F. D. Arnold entered the grain and lumber business at Adair in 1873 in company with Capt. Charles Stuart. W. R. Turner began the lumber business in 1876. Frank McFarland began the same business in 1873.

The pioneer jewelry store was established in 1882 by G. W. Henkle, who put in a stock in a building on the south side of Main Street. He afterwards moved to another building a little west of this and took Warren Swart in as a partner.

The pioneer milliners of Adair were Misses Donahey and Moss, who opened an establishment in 1876 in the drug store of Doctor Parsons, but closed out after running one season.



STREET SCENES IN ADAIR





The first shoemaker of Adair was J. H. Henryson, who came to the village in 1874 and worked at his trade in his dwelling house. He afterwards constructed a small building. Here he continued in business until 1878, when he disposed of the building, and became a salesman in the store of F. Furst.

A harness shop was opened by Charles Camper in 1879 in a building which he erected for the purpose.

The first blacksmith shop in the village was run by J. A. Beebe, who came to Adair in June, 1874, and opened in a building which he built at the foot of Main Street.

The pioneer physician was F. D. Longher, who settled in Adair in 1875.

#### BANKS

The Bank of Adair, a private establishment, was organized in July, 1882, by G. H. Whitmore. Whitmore was a native of Ashtabula County, Ohio. A. C. Savage also had a private bank about the same time called the Farmers Bank.

The Exchange Bank, a private institution, was started about the year 1879. The bank was housed in a frame building and was run in conjunction with a general store where the Kelsey & Wagner general store is now located. The store was sold in 1888 and in 1891 a brick building was constructed and is now in use by the bank. F. Furst is the president; M. C. Furst, cashier; C. Rochholz, assistant cashier; and Vera E. Wark, bookkeeper. The responsibilities of the company are fixed at about the sum of \$150,000.

The First National Bank was started in 1903 as the Savings Bank. W. R. Turner was the president of the Savings and M. R. Porter was cashier. The building was purchased of G. H. Whitmore, who had operated a private bank as mentioned above. This bank was in the building now occupied by Lynch & Byers' law office.

On November 16, 1905, new interests took hold of the Savings Bank and ran it as the same for 11½ years. In 1907 it was changed to the First National Bank and the following were the first officers: M. H. Welton, president; M. L. McManus, vice president; Roy R. Welton, cashier; J. F. McManus, assistant cashier. These officers are the same now with the exception of Thomas Robinson, vice president, and D. H. Mueller, assistant cashier. The first capital stock was \$12,000; this was raised to \$25,000, and on June 20, 1913, was again raised to \$35,000. There is a surplus of about \$10,000 and the average deposits are \$200,000. The new building was occupied by



the bank on August 1, 1914. There are sixteen stockholders at the present time. The bookkeepers are Mabel Chestnut and Carrie Anders.

#### NEWSPAPERS OF ADAIR

The Adair Reflector was a six-column folio established at Adair in the spring of 1874 by Charles Stuart. The first issue came off the presses May 28th of that year. This paper ran for several years and then was abandoned.

The Adair News was established in the spring of 1882, the initial number making its appearance on March 17th. G. W. Wilkinson was the proprietor of the paper, and the office was located over Moran's store. The subscription price at this time was \$1.25 per year. Adair was then not incorporated, being a part of Summit Township. The paper was a four-column quarto and the pages were 8¾ inches by 12 1/3 in dimensions. In 1889 the News passed into the hands of J. B. Richardson. On July 5th of the same year the plant was sold to Charles C. Pugh, who later was associated with W. C. Pugh in the ownership of the paper. F. Kingsbury was the next owner and editor of the paper and sold it to J. W. Kitch on August 11, 1892. On May 8, 1896, G. L. Gillies bought the paper and became editor and on January 1, 1897, A. P. McDowell bought the plant. On January 1, 1906, Roy A. Stacey purchased the News from McDowell and is in present charge. A new building was completed May 1, 1915, and the paper is now located in probably the finest country newspaper office in the State of Iowa. The building is 70 by 25 feet, with ornamental front, four columns being used as shown in the picture. The press room is well equipped and the presses and other heavy machinery are placed upon cement bases to insure rigidity and non-conducting of sound and vibration. The windows are of steel, with ribbed wire glass. The cost of the structure was approximately \$4,000. The present circulation of the News is 1,200.

#### MILLS AND ELEVATORS

In the spring of 1875 Heacock & Delaney erected a mill in the vicinity of the town. They operated this for a time and then were succeeded by Delaney Brothers, and in 1879 it was purchased by Frank L. Gordenier and W. R. Turner. In 1881 Gordenier bought the Turner interest and took in as a partner his brother, S. L., on April 7, 1883.



VIEWS IN ADAIR



In September, 1873, Charles Stuart commenced the erection of an elevator at this place. He put this under the charge of Fran Arnold.

#### HOTELS

In the fall of 1874 D. S. West constructed a hotel which was known as the Adair House, but which was afterwards burned to the ground. In the spring of 1875 P. Luckinbill built a hotel which was called the Bear Grove House, which he ran until he sold out to Thomas Rodda. This latter host ran the place for a time, then sold out to Doctor Johnson, who leased it to John J. Irving. In 1878 it passed into the hands of John J. Richardson. It was then known as the Commercial House. Laban North built another hotel in the spring of 1874, which was called the North Star Hotel. Poor business compelled the closing of the doors of this place. The Reynolds House was erected by Hiram N. Reynolds in 1883, at a cost of \$3,000, and was a first class establishment for the day.

#### POSTOFFICE

The postoffice at Adair was established in the spring of 1874 and John E. Moran received the commission as the first postmaster. He held this position, having the office in his store, until October 21, 1881, when he resigned and Harvey Smith was appointed to his place.

#### GROWTH OF THE CITY

In the steady growth which has been the good fortune of the City of Adair there has been nothing of the boom variety. The town is founded on solid rock and its institutions, schools, churches, clubs and financial activities, as well as merchandise trading, are well organized. There is developing in the town in very recent years a civic desire for improvement which first had its fruits four years ago, in 1911, when the city water and electric plant was established. This is just the beginning of further improvements such as paving and sewerage and better curbing and walks. Being located on the main line of the Rock Island Railroad has a great deal to do with the success of the town as a shipping center. Quantities of grain and stock are brought in here to be shipped to the eastern markets. The White Way, a marked and improved highway from Chicago to Den-



ver, passes through this town and was largely promoted by one of the enterprising citizens of Adair, Roy A. Stacey, editor of the News.

#### SOCIETIES

Beulah Lodge No. 449, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, was instituted on July 3, 1884, with the following officers: J. F. Wilkinson, worshipful master; James W. Moore, senior warden; L. M. Hawes, junior warden; John Jackson, treasurer; J. H. Henryson, secretary; J. E. Moran, senior deacon; A. M. Kibby, junior deacon; G. T. Hendricks, S. S.; R. K. Eby, J. S.; Joseph Raffensperger, tyler. Beulah Lodge, while under dispensation, admitted, passed and raised the following named brothers: J. S. Shaver, M. F. Stults, Thomas Fitzgerald, G. W. Henkle and Samuel Ewing. The original charter members were: Levi Clay, J. F. Wilkinson, L. M. Hawes, John Jackson, J. H. Henryson, J. M. Moore, W. S. Wishard, A. M. Kibby, J. E. Moran, R. K. Eby, G. T. Hendricks, H. W. Smith, J. H. Devault, Joseph Raffensberger, C. Pettitt.

Summit Lodge No. 348, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized and instituted on May 17, 1876, with the following charter members: D. W. Moss, C. H. Vancott, C. C. Washburn, J. H. Henryson, Samuel Ewing, James Campbell and J. K. James. The first officers elected were: D. W. Moss, noble grand; C. H. Vancott, vice grand; C. C. Washburn, secretary; J. H. Henryson, treasurer; James A. Parker, P. S.

Adair Lodge No. 205, Ancient Order United Workmen, was organized and instituted November 17, 1879. The first officers of the lodge were: J. H. Porter, P. M. W.; J. H. Henryson, M. W.; C. C. Washburn, G. F.; W. R. Turner, O.; D. L. Wilson, Rec.; J. G. Watrus, Finan.; C. Pettitt, Recv.; D. H. Kingery, G.; J. J. Beebe, I. W.; L. Clay, O. W. The charter members of this lodge were: T. D. Lougher, H. P. Starr, John V. Brown, G. W. Dosh, D. E. Bancroft, J. C. Gearheart and W. C. Libby.

Washington Post No. 135, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized on February 22, 1883, with the following comrades as charter members: D. E. Bancroft, M. Johnson, G. L. Blakeslee, W. L. Dinsmore, J. M. Howell, C. Pettitt, H. P. Starr, J. H. Porter, J. M. Moore, L. M. Hawes, C. C. Reynolds, G. M. Goforth, L. G. Hesser, John Kaufman, N. Hopkins, V. H. Wright, J. Breinerd.

The following men are the veterans now living in the town and township: John Coddington, Joseph Raffensberger, Joseph Fur-



stenberg, Martin Brennan, J. H. Elliott, Wes McDowell, Farnsworth, Powell, M. L. McManus, T. A. Whittam, S. H. Wark, David Hammond, A. D. Arthur, Dan Largent, W. P. Cowden, J. H. Porter, Frank Dutro and Elijah Brownlee. There are about twenty veterans buried in the cemetery at the outskirts of the city.

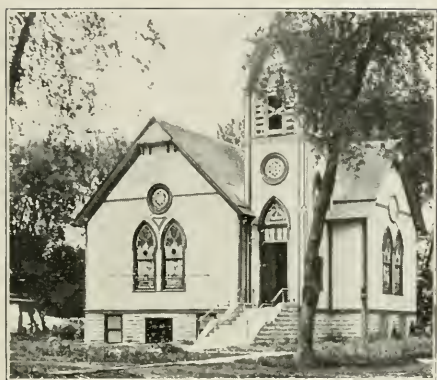
#### A TRAIN ROBBERY

On July 21, 1873, at a point two miles west of Adair, occurred a train robbery on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad. Some men, supposed at the time to have been members of the noted James brothers' gang, had been loafing around in the neighborhood, spending their time doing odd jobs for farmers or anything to make their presence appear an innocent one. On the day of the robbery they procured a rope and going to the point of the robbery they loosened the spikes in the ties and attached the rope to the rail without moving it. The rope they carried up a high bank, behind which they waited. About 8 o'clock the express came dashing along and just before the engine came to the loosened rail the latter was pulled away, and the train came to an abrupt stop with its nose buried in the bank. The tender was thrown upon the cab of the engine and the engineer, John Rafferty, was killed outright. The outlaws then descended from the bank and rifled the express car of money, jewelry and other valuables, making a haul of about \$3,000, with which they successfully escaped. The conductor was slightly wounded by a bullet, but none of the passengers was hurt in any way. Levi Clay carried the message to Casey and was instrumental in starting a pursuit of the robbers. It was found upon investigation that the tool house of the railroad company had been broken open and the tools taken therefrom with which to loosen the spikes. The pursuit of the bandits was unsuccessful, as they reached the Missouri in safety. George Sisson, son of Azariah, in company with H. H. Blakesley, followed them into the latter state. The indications pointed to the fact that the men were members of the James gang.

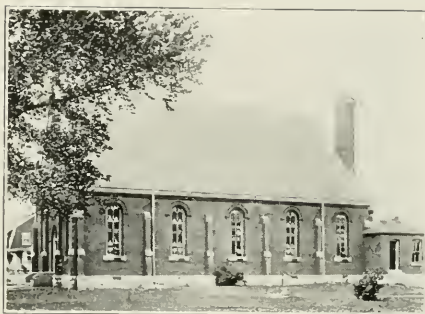
#### THE 1884 FIRE

On the night of Friday, April 18, 1884, a fire broke out in the Town of Adair. The local newspaper account of the disaster was as follows:

“The fire broke out in the clothing house of Myers, Schnier & Company, and spreading west and southwest, consumed the hardware store of Kelsey & Bodley, and the agricultural implement house of John Jackson. Eastward it communicated to the residence of William Inghram, the saloon of Charles Fisher, the livery stable of R. S. Pinkerton, the agricultural implement warehouse of George Ish, the dry goods store of E. Cate, and was at last checked in its progress by tearing down the building occupied by Henkle & Swart as a jewelry and furniture store. In regard to the losses it is estimated that John Jackson loses on his stock of agricultural implements about two thousand five hundred dollars. No insurance. Kelsey & Bodley, on building occupied by Jackson, \$250, and on their own stock of hardware about two thousand five hundred dollars. They had an insurance on the stock about enough to cover their loss. James A. Parker, on the building occupied by Kelsey & Bodley, about six hundred and fifty dollars. Myers, Schnier & Company, on stock of clothing, boots and shoes, about two thousand five hundred dollars. The stock was entirely destroyed, but entirely covered by insurance. William Inghram lost on restaurant building, stock and fixtures, and building occupied by Myers, Schnier & Company, about one thousand six hundred dollars. Two show cases, with their contents, were all that was saved from his stock. No insurance. Charles Fisher lost on his saloon fixtures about four hundred dollars, on which he had no insurance. Mrs. J. Reimers, who owned this building, places her loss at \$600, and also was without insurance. R. S. Pinkerton on his livery stable lost about eight hundred dollars. The contents were all saved except about one hundred fifty dollars worth of feed and trinkets, covered by insurance. George Ish reckoned his loss on stock at \$500 and had no insurance. The building he occupied was owned by C. M. Myers and caused a loss to that gentleman of \$250, which was without insurance. E. Cate’s stock of dry goods was all saved, but in a damaged condition, causing him a slight loss of about one hundred dollars, also without insurance. J. W. Dowdall, on the building occupied by Cate and on household goods, incurred a clear loss of \$1,100, as he had no insurance either. The building was a two-story one and the upper part was occupied by Mr. Dowdall as a residence. Henkle & Swart, on their stock of furniture, lost about four hundred dollars, not insured. A. Krudiner owned this building and put his loss at \$600, with an insurance of \$400. John Sheran’s stock of groceries and dry goods was carried out and badly damaged, probably to the extent of \$300, which was fully covered by insurance.



Methodist Church



Catholic Church



Water Tower



Presbyterian Church

VIEWS OF ADAIR



M. Dunkin lost about two hundred dollars by the damage sustained by his drug stock being carried out, with no insurance.

“The cause of the fire is not known, but is thought by all to be the work of an incendiary, as ten of the citizens had passed there on their way home from council meeting and a session of the township trustees, not fifteen minutes, at the most, before the whole of the building was in flames, and they had not discovered anything in the shape of fire, and, as it was a very dark night, the smallest light would have been seen. If it had not been raining at the time and a strong wind from the northeast blowing, there is no doubt but that the whole of the business part of the town would have been burned to the ground. As it was, it was only by the superhuman efforts of the citizens that it was saved. The Larson Building, the Sheran Building, the meat market, Odd Fellows Hall and M. Dunkin’s drug store were in the line of the fire and only a vacant space of about ten feet remained between the furniture store and the Larson Building, and here it was by hard work the furniture store was pulled down and the fire checked. The fire was first discovered by Frank Kingsbury and Charles Fisher, but which saw it first is hard to determine, as they raised the alarm about the same time. Miss Belle Kelsey, who was staying at John Shaver’s, was one of the first to be aroused by the portentous cry of ‘Fire!’ and through rain and mud, with but one shoe on, she went from one end of the town to the other, spreading the alarm. The ladies took hold and worked in saving goods and carrying water, and it was with their aid that a large quantity of goods was saved. The residence of R. S. Pinkerton, just south of the burned district, was set on fire several times by burning brands, but was extinguished before much damage was done.”



## CHAPTER XIII

### BRIDGEWATER TOWN AND TOWNSHIP

#### ORGANIZATION

The Township of Bridgewater was set off from Jackson and Washington townships in the year 1895. A petition was presented to the board of supervisors in that year, signed by the citizens of the community, asking that all of sections 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34 in township 75, range 33, be set off and taken from Jackson Township and that all of sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 in township 74, range 33, be set off and taken from Washington Township and be formed together into the new Township of Bridgewater. This petition was presented in January, 1895, and approved by the supervisors, with the order that same was to go into effect on January 1, 1896. This strip of land, in plainer terms, runs  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles east and west and is one mile wide, one-half extending into each of the townships of Jackson and Washington.

#### BRIDGEWATER TOWN

The Town of Bridgewater had its start in the year 1885 by the building of the Chicago, Quincy and Burlington Railroad through that territory. The railroad company purchased the main site of the town from several gentlemen, their names and amount of land bought being as follows: From J. B. Sullivan, 80 acres; from George F. Clark, 20 acres; from Matt Lednun, 10 acres; and from Thomas Warrior, 10 acres. The plat was filed October 13, 1885. The name of the town was probably given from the fact that the railroad at this point had considerable difficulty in bridging the Nodaway River, being compelled to construct a bridge 640 feet in length. This origin of the name has never been verified, but is accepted as the most probable of all sources.

The first store in the new Town of Bridgewater was started by S. F. Peterson. He came from a distance of six miles and installed a general stock of goods in a frame building constructed for the



BRIDGEWATER SAVINGS BANK



purpose. Mr. Wolford came from the east side of the county at the same time, if not shortly previous to Mr. Peterson, and also started a general store. K. R. Madden was the first man to open a hardware business in the young community and shortly afterwards E. Sulgrove purchased a partnership in his business. The Fisher Brothers, J. W. and J. H., were the next to start a general store. Soon after Andrew Thompson went into partnership with Wolford in the merchandise business. E. W. Regan was the first physician to locate in Bridgewater.

Bridgewater was unfortunate in the first year of its existence owing to the untimely visit of a terrific cyclone, which came one night in the summer of 1886. The tornado was unheralded and swept its vicious course straight through the few houses in the town, doing considerable damage. The new 2-story residence of George Lilly was completely demolished and distributed over several square miles of territory. Mr. Lilly stated that he was going upstairs to bed, carrying an oil lamp when, suddenly, he found himself in the cellar. The Wolford store was blown off the blocks upon which it had been placed.

In 1890 two church societies were started in Bridgewater, the Church of Christ and the Methodist Episcopal. Both churches erected houses of worship that year, which are in use at the present time. The membership of each is close around 150.

There is a very good lodge spirit in the town and the different orders active are united in helping the destinies of their community. Perhaps the strongest organization is the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The Modern Woodmen and Knights of Pythias have charters here, but are not very active at the present time. The Community Club, just recently organized, is a very strong factor in building up the town and township. This club is the same as a commercial club, differing only from the fact that it is formed so as to include the farmers in the adjacent territory as well as the citizens of the town. Their purpose is to accomplish everything which will benefit the country in which they live.

Bridgewater is perhaps the chief live stock center of the county. A fact that testifies to this is that nearly all of the grain grown in the townships around is kept there and fed to the stock, which in turn is shipped to the markets. The shipping from this point is very heavy. The stock raised here comprises a large amount of prize and fancy animals. There are a number of dealers in this class of stock in the adjacent territory.

## BRIDGEWATER BANKS

The Union Bank was organized on January 6, 1890, by J. G. Hendry and G. G. Rechtenbach, as a private bank. Rechtenbach died soon afterwards and Mr. Hendry became the sole owner, which position he continues in 1915. The deposits of this bank run to the amount of \$200,000 and are protected by the interests of Mr. Hendry. The building in which the bank is housed was constructed in the year of its organization, costing \$2,600. H. E. Hendry is the present cashier of the institution.

The Bridgewater Savings Bank was organized in August, 1905, by Messrs. Harlan, Turner and Castle, from outside points. The first capital stock was \$10,000, the same being the amount at present. The deposits amount to \$95,000 and \$1,000 surplus is carried. The handsome bank building was built in 1914 at a cost of \$5,000. The fixtures are worth \$2,000 extra. E. Sulgrove is president of the institution; E. H. Sullivan is vice president; P. P. Sullivan, cashier; and F. R. Michael, assistant cashier.

Both of these banks are on solid basis and are well patronized by the people of the vicinity. They testify to the financial strength of the community.



## CHAPTER XIV

### JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

Jefferson Township comprises all of congressional township 77 north, range 31 west. The surface of the township is of rolling character and the soil is rich and loamy. It is mostly prairie, with a little timber located along the stream channels. At one time excellent timber lined the banks of Turkey Creek. The township is watered by Middle River, Turkey and many other creeks and their tributaries. Middle River enters from the west, on section 7, and flowing in a generally southeasterly course, intersects sections 7, 8, 17, 20, 21, 22, 27 and 35. In the northwest part of the latter it makes a confluence with Turkey Creek. This latter stream, rising in Walnut Township, flows into Jefferson on the west line of section 30, and in an easterly course crosses sections 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and in 35 enters the main stream as above mentioned.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

The first man to make a settlement within Jefferson Township was William Alcorn, who came in the spring of 1850 and took up a claim on section 27, near the upper crossing of the Middle River. It was not possible for him to enter land at that time, so he built a cabin and became what is known as a squatter. Here he lived until he sold out his holdings to John Febus, when he took up another claim on section 33. In the fall of 1854, growing dissatisfied with his surroundings, he removed to Winterset, Madison County. He was a native of Illinois, but came here from Dubuque, Iowa.

With Alcorn came John Gilson, who made a settlement in 1850, but afterwards moved to Harrison Township and then left the county.

Daniel Vancil came from Illinois in the spring of 1850 and settled on section 35. He constructed a small log cabin on his land. He did not enter any land in this locality, but made himself an unsavory reputation as a claim jumper. In the fall of 1852 he returned to

Illinois and, about a year afterward, was hung by a mob of citizens for a series of crimes.

George M. Holaday came to the township in the spring of 1853 and settled on section 26. Here he built a double log cabin, which was said to have been the best house in the county at the time.

John Febus came to the township from Indiana in the spring of 1853 and bought the land of William Alcorn on section 27 for \$300. He remained here until the fall of 1855 and then moved to Winterset and later to Nebraska, where he died.

Jacob Bruce came to the township in the fall of 1853 and settled upon section 33 in the following spring. In the late '60s Jacob Bruce had one of the largest and best orchards in Adair County; in fact, it was almost the only producing orchard in the county, except one belonging to L. C. Elliot in Harrison Township and one belonging to David Coffin in Washington Township, both much smaller than Bruce's.

Mahundry Hollingsworth came to this vicinity in 1854 and settled upon section 27, where he built a cabin home. In 1856 he moved to Winterset. He was a native of Indiana.

In 1854 Samuel Minert came to section 27. He was a native of Indiana and became a tenant on the farm of M. Hollingsworth. He remained here about a year and then moved to Harrison Township, some time afterwards leaving the county.

Among the arrivals of 1854 was David H. Shields, a native of Georgia. He came here in the spring of the year and in the fall purchased 240 acres of land on sections 27 and 34 from John Febus. In April, 1855, he sold this land to George B. Wilson and then moved to Harrison Township and bought the claim of John Gilson. Shortly, however, he left the county.

George B. Wilson, a native of Ohio, moved to Adair County on June 16, 1855, having previously bought 240 acres of land from David Shields. He filled the position of postmaster at Holaday's for over twenty years. He became well known as a stock raiser.

Dr. William Tingle came from Indiana in the spring of 1855 and entered land in section 36, on which he built a cabin. He afterward sold out to Shreeves & Hollingsworth and moved to Winterset, where he kept a hotel. He afterwards went to Audubon County, Ia.

Patrick Hugh (Hall), a native of Ireland, came here in the spring of 1856 from Keokuk, Ia. He rented a farm, where he stayed until he had raised a crop, and then removed to Walnut Township, and later from the county.

A man commonly known as "Old Glunt" came from Indiana in 1856, rented the Holaday farm, and put in a crop. However, before harvest time had come, he sold the crop to John Easton and returned to the Hoosier State.

Stover Rinard made his appearance in this township in April, 1856, and located upon section 8. He was a native of Randolph County, Ind.

In the summer of 1856 Jeremiah Rinard settled on section 5 with his family. He built a cabin on the south half of the northeast quarter of the section, where he lived for many years. He was a native of Indiana.

George Welker came to Jefferson Township from Indiana in the summer of 1856 and settled upon section 36 and put up a log cabin. He lived here but a short time, when he moved to Madison County, and then back to Harrison Township, Adair County. Before leaving he sold his claim to John R. Short, who had just come to this place from Indiana, of which state he was a native. Short settled down upon the farm, but after the Civil war he sold out to Barnet Isley and went to Dallas County. He was not liked here for many reasons.

Stroud A. Petts made a settlement on section 3 in the summer of 1856. He came from Lee County, Ia., and building a cabin here, stayed until the summer of 1859, when he died at Greenbush, Warren County, where he had gone for medical treatment. His widow afterward married a Mr. Rich, who was killed two years later by the caving in of a well.

Sino Sherer came here in the summer of 1856 from Lee County. He was a brother-in-law of Stroud A. Petts. He settled on section 7 and built a cabin. In 1865 he sold out to B. F. McMullen and moved to Andrews County, Mo. He was at one time road supervisor in Adair County.

Simon Barrows, a single man, came here in the fall of 1856 from Davenport, Ia. He was a native of Massachusetts and came to superintend a large tract of land. He took possession of a cabin which had been built on section 33. He taught the first school in this township in the winter of 1856-7 and was elected to the office of county superintendent of schools in 1861, but resigned before the expiration of his term of office. He then removed to Des Moines and shortly afterward was elected superintendent of common schools of Polk County. Later he moved to Adams County and became a preacher.

John Loucks settled upon section 27 during the month of December, 1856. He was a native of Indianapolis, Ind.

John Shreeves came from Winterset in 1857. He later engaged in the lumber business at Greenfield.

John Easton located on section 22 and there farmed and raised stock with success; his first location, however, had been on section 26 in 1857. In the spring of 1858 he built a small log cabin on section 22, in which he lived until 1864, when he constructed a larger and better residence.

William H. Easton, son of the above, entered 440 acres of land in Jefferson Township in May, 1855. He also bought seventy acres of timber land from G. M. Holaday on section 4, Grove Township. In October he moved his family to his land and spent the winter in a log cabin. He later built another log cabin and there lived until 1882, when he erected a better dwelling. During his life here he held every township office and helped to make the first assessment while in the assessor's office. He was the second representative from Adair County, being elected in the fall of 1873.

Dillon Hunt, a native of Indiana, made a settlement in 1858 on section 7, buying a farm of Stover Rinard. He shortly afterward sold the farm to Mr. Still and returned to his native state. Still resold the place to the first owner, Rinard.

Samuel S. Beale, supposed to have been a native of Indiana, came to the township in 1858 and rented a farm owned by William Hollingsworth on section 35, where he resided for a year and a half, when he moved to Andrews County, Mo.

James Hornback came from Winterset in the spring of 1859 and rented the Hollingsworth and Holaday farms, where he remained about a year, when he returned to Madison County. He was an Indiana man.

Jonathan Shreves, a native of Clay County, Illinois, came to Adair County in 1860 and settled in Jefferson Township.

Benjamin F. McMullen came to section 7 in 1864. William F. Edgerly came in 1875; William A. Perkins in 1877; William Wilson in 1880; Leander Jones in 1878; Charles R. Crabb in 1870; Alonzo H. Rinard in 1875.

#### EARLY DAY ITEMS

The first ground broken in the township was on the farm of William Alcorn by Thomas Wilkinson in the fall of 1852. William Alcorn planted the first corn in the spring of 1852, which was planted



in the sod. Jacob Bruce started the first orchard with 200 apple trees. G. M. Holaday sowed the first wheat in 1854. The first oats were sown by G. M. Holaday and John Febus in the spring of 1854, the former on section 35 and the latter on section 27. Jacob cradled the first oats raised in the township in the summer of 1854 for Holaday and Febus.

The first birth in Jefferson Township was that of Jefferson Holaday, the son of George M. and Lydia Holaday, in the fall of 1854. The child died in the autumn of 1855 and was buried in a pasture field.

The first death in the township was that of the seven or eight-year-old son of William Alcorn. He was bitten by a rattlesnake in the summer of 1853 and died a few hours afterwards. He was buried in the same pasture which later held Jefferson Holaday.

The first marriage was that of William Stinson and Elizabeth F. Crow. The ceremony took place upon May 7, 1854, and was performed by the county judge, G. M. Holaday, at the residence of William Alcorn. This was also the first marriage in the county, as shown by the official records.

The first religious services held in the township were held in June, 1854, at the log cabin of John Febus on section 27. These were held by John Creager and Samuel Johnson, residents of Madison County. They were of the denomination then known as the New Light Christians.

The first election was held at the house of G. M. Holaday on section 35 in 1855.

The first log house was built in the spring of 1852 by Daniel Vancil on section 35. The second, finished about the same time, was put up by William Alcorn on section 27. The first frame house in the township was erected by George B. Wilson in 1857 on section 27.

In 1865 J. B. McGinnis donated two acres of land on his farm in section 34 for the purpose of a cemetery and the same was surveyed by George B. Wilson. Wesley Taylor, who was at that time recorder, entered the plat upon the county records. The first burial within this beautiful city of the dead was Eli Bruce, a son of Jacob Bruce, who died about the time of the laying out of the grounds.

#### MILLS

In 1858 John Easton purchased the machinery for a sawmill in Winterset and set it up on the farm of his son, William H., on section



23. This was the first in the township. He operated the mill until the breaking out of the Civil war and then sold to Jerry Barker and William McCollom. This mill was run by steam power and did custom work.

In the spring of 1866 Marshall McCollom started a steam saw-mill near J. B. Bruce's place on section 24, which ran about one season, when it was moved away. Some person drove a spike into a log and when it was driven toward the saw the latter was completely ruined.

The Middle River grist mill, located on section 7, was built in the winter of 1874 by Isaiah Hollingsworth, costing over four thousand dollars. In September, 1876, Andrew J. Thompson bought out Mr. Hollingsworth.

A mill known as the Chamberlain Mill was completed in January, 1879, and was what was then known as the "new process mill." The dam was constructed during the years 1876 and 1877.

#### POSTOFFICE

The postoffice known as Holaday's was established in 1853 as Wahtawa and William Alcorn was commissioned the first postmaster. This was originated during the great overland travel to California and was established mainly for the accommodation of the emigrants to the Pacific. It was located at the house of the postmaster on section 27 and was named after a local Indian chief. G. M. Holaday was the postmaster during the years 1855 and 1856 and was succeeded in 1857 by William H. Easton, who in turn gave way to John A. Easton. In the spring of 1864 George B. Wilson took charge of the office. The name of the office was changed on the accession to office of G. M. Holaday. During a short time the office was kept at the house of Thomas Breen and Mary A. Breen acted as deputy postmaster.

#### ORGANIZATION

Jefferson Township was organized in 1855 and the first election held at the house of G. M. Holaday on section 35. The first officers chosen were as follows: Jacob Bruce, William McDonald and Robert Wilson, trustees; William Hollingsworth, clerk; and Jacob Bruce, road supervisor.

## CHAPTER XV

### RICHLAND TOWNSHIP

Within the boundaries of Richland Township are found two streams of water, namely: the east branch of the Nodaway River and Shanghai Creek. The former river flows through the northwest corner, entering on section 5, flowing through sections 6, 7 and 18, passing into Washington Township from the latter section. Shanghai Creek traverses the township from north to south through sections 1, 12, 14, 23, 22 and 27, leaving the township on section 34. There are also several small branches of these two streams. The land is mostly open and rolling prairie, the only timber of natural growth being on the banks of the Nodaway River.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

The first man to seek a home within the territory now embraced in Richland Township was John Gilman, who settled on section 5 in 1853 and erected for himself a cabin. Harvey Fortner settled at the same time as Gilman.

The second settler of Richland was Joshua E. Chapman, who came in 1854 and entered land on section 5.

In the spring of 1855 Thomas Ewing came. He was accompanied by James Ewing.

Milton Chapman made a settlement in December, 1855. In company with his wife and five children he came all the way from Monroe County, with an ox team, traveling about sixteen miles a day. When they arrived at Twelve Mile Creek in Union County, it was some twenty-five miles across the open prairie without a house to be seen anywhere in all that distance. As the nights were bright with moonlight they left Twelve Mile Creek about 10 o'clock P. M. and traveled all night, reaching their destination about 3 o'clock in the afternoon of December 7th. Two days later there came a terrible snow storm and it was impossible for another person to cross the prairie

that winter. As Mr. Chapman and family were not heard of again that winter, it was supposed that they had been lost in the snow storm and frozen to death on the prairie, and, in fact, was so reported in an Ottumwa paper.

#### HISTORIC ITEMS

John Gilman built the first cabin in the township. He also broke the first ground and sowed the first grain.

The first schoolhouse was constructed in 1858 and cost \$400.

The first birth in the township was that of a son to James and Margaret Ewing on April 13, 1857, and named Winfield S.

The first death in the township was that of a child of some emigrants passing through. The second death was that of Mary A. Ewing on August 19, 1860.

The first religious services were of the Methodist Episcopal denomination. They were held in the house of T. M. Ewing in the summer of 1855.

A cemetery was laid out in 1869 and was known as the Richland Cemetery. The cemetery in connection with the Union Church on section 15 was laid out March 3, 1871. The first interment was a child of A. H. Fisk. Hiram Fisk was the first adult buried there.

In the summer of 1870 Fisk postoffice was established. George H. Walford was the postmaster.

#### ORGANIZATION

Richland Township was officially organized in 1860. At the fall election of that year the following officers were elected: James S. Ewing, justice of the peace; Benjamin Minert, supervisor.

#### LODGES AND CHURCHES

In 1872 an organization known as the Grange Lodge was effected at the McClure schoolhouse. It attained a membership of about thirty and flourished about ten years. The first officers of the society were: T. M. Ewing, master; D. J. Ely, secretary. The last secretary of the lodge was Alexander Evans.

The Congregational Church of the Township was organized in 1881. The church building was erected in the summer of this year at a cost of \$1,800. There was a cemetery laid out in connection with the church.



REV. JOSIAH W. PEET

One of the first Congregational ministers in Adair County, under whom was erected the first church building in the county in Fontanelle.





Richland Union Church was organized in 1878 and during the summer a church was constructed. The first officers of the organization were: A. H. Fisk, president; H. H. Dant, secretary; Andrew Clayton, treasurer; T. M. Ewing, J. D. McClure, trustees.

The Missionary Baptist Church of Richland Township was organized in 1871 with Reverend Johnson as pastor. Services were held at first in the Union Church.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL

Thomas Ewing was another early settler of note who came in the days of the ox team, 1854, with his brother James, and settled in Richland Township. He served for several terms as county supervisor and was much interested in grange, alliance and temperance work. He was a soldier in the War of the Rebellion and was discharged for disabilities incurred in the campaign culminating in the battle of Shiloh. He died at Fontanelle in 1908.

Rev. Joseph Mather was the first Congregational minister in the county. He came to Fontanelle and organized a church about 1858. He died at Fontanelle in 1862.

Rev. J. W. Peet, a graduate of Middleburg College, Vermont, came to the county in 1864. He preached from Lincoln to Richland Township, riding the circuit and preaching in Lincoln, Grand River, Greenfield, Fontanelle and Richland. He was instrumental in building churches at Fontanelle, the first in the county built in 1870, in Grand River and in Richland. He was county superintendent of schools for one term. After several years of service here he moved first to Prescott, Adams County, afterward to Monticello, Jones County, where he died in 1892.

George R. Peet early developed a large farm near Nevin in Adair County; later purchased and conducted a lumber yard in Prescott, Adams County. Upon the location of the Creston and Northern Railroad he purchased the first lot sold in Orient and opened the lumber business which he carried on in connection with his Prescott business and farm operations. He afterwards traded his Adair property for a hardware business in Monticello, Jones County. He later moved to Alden, Hardin County, where he died in 1893.

Henry and Hiram Fisk early settled in section 16, Richland Township, and near one corner of that section laid out the first cemetery in the township. Hiram died in Adair County and Henry moved West, serving several years as sheriff in Oregon, where he now resides, enjoying the title of Judge.

John Coolbaugh settled on a farm which he named Penn Avenue, from his native state. His brother, William, was a prominent banker at Burlington and Chicago and owner of a large amount of Adair County land. John Coolbaugh looked after the estate, together with his own business. He gave the Penn Avenue Cemetery to the county and largely contributed to the building of the Penn Avenue Church. John Coolbaugh died at the home of his son, Prof. Melville Coolbaugh, in South Dakota and was buried in Penn Avenue Cemetery.

Homer Brooks, whose ancestry traces directly to Jonathan Brooks who landed from the Mayflower on Plymouth Rock, and whose wife, Mary Kellogg, was a lineal descendant of Governor William Bradford, also of the Pilgrim band and the second governor of the colony, settled on land which he had owned some years in Richland Township and developed a new farm in 1879. Mr. Brooks' grandfather was a soldier in the patriot army through the Revolutionary war, afterward settling on the frontier in Ohio, from which state Homer Brooks and family came to Adair County. Mr. Brooks lived on his farm until 1890, when he moved to Greenfield, there dying in 1905. Mr. Brooks was active in grange and alliance work, was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was at one time candidate from Adair County for the Senate, and always a man of strong convictions, ripe judgment, and unblemished integrity.

Another prominent early settler of Richland Township was T. C. Heacock, of Quaker ancestry, from Ohio, who with his wife, Rachel Mather, also of Quaker extraction, settled early in Adair County. Mr. Heacock was for many years prominent in political life; strong in grange, alliance and farmers' institute work; vice president and director of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company; and always a progressive man in every effort to better the condition of society. He moved some years since to Harper County, Kan., and there has followed the same lines of activity as he did in Adair County.

An early settler on the south side of Richland was George W. Grant, who came to Iowa from Maine about 1857. He had quite a local reputation as a poet and created some good verses. He died several years ago.

L. J. Gray settled in Richland Township in 1868 and farmed for two or three years, but having lost an arm in the Civil war, he was unable to conduct the business with the vigor necessary to the greatest success. He removed to Fontanelle in 1873 and entered the contest as republican candidate for county treasurer and the same year was elected. During his term, there being no bank in Adair County, he

was obliged to keep the county funds in a bank at Des Moines. The failure of B. F. Allen's bank in that city in 1874 left the county treasurer out about five thousand dollars, which was an entire loss to the county. Mr. Gray served two terms as treasurer and was afterwards engaged in the real estate business in Greenfield with W. B. Martin and later moved to Chicago, where he died some years ago.

William W. Peet, son of Rev. J. W. Peet, also of Richland, was a young school teacher, and deputy treasurer in the office of L. J. Gray for about a year; then he secured a position with the Burlington Railroad as land and tax clerk in the office of the superintendent, a position which he held for several years, being advanced to a very responsible position in the business of that road. About 1886 he accepted the position of financial agent for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions at Constantinople, Turkey, a place of vast business responsibility, which he still holds.

Rev. Josiah W. Peet, a graduate of Middlebury College, Vt., and a Congregational minister, was one of the early ministers in the county and was instrumental in building the first church in the county at Fontanelle. He purchased and improved a farm in the south part of Richland Township, was pastor of the churches in Richland, Fontanelle and Grand River and preached occasionally in Lincoln and other townships in the county. He served one term as county superintendent of schools and took great interest in educational development. In those times the preacher's work was mostly a labor of love; the pecuniary consideration being hardly enough to supply a living for himself, let alone his family. The calls for help and consolation took him on long horseback trips over lonely trails, and over flooded streams; a hard, dangerous and devoted existence which dwellers of the present generation can scarcely comprehend.

#### NEVIN

An example of the land shark is given in the history of the Town of Nevin, a portion of which lies in the south part of Richland Township. Long before the days of the railroad in Iowa, about 1855, some speculators came out to Iowa from Massachusetts and located a large tract of land in Adams and Adair counties. They contemplated platting it into house lots about the center, surrounded by two and a half, ten acre, forty acre and one hundred and sixty acre lots, and showing on the plat a city some four miles square, with parks, churches, streets, etc., in embryo. There was a small creek, dry a

considerable part of the year, which runs to the Nodaway, some miles distant.

The promoters went back East and showed their fancy map of a city of magnificent distances, located at the head of steam navigation on the Nodaway River, and succeeded in disposing of some of the land. A colony of settlers, lured by high promises, came on the long journey by railroad and stage, and from the Mississippi River by steam, to find in the place of a thriving town, an unbroken wilderness. A few who were too poor to go farther stuck and in time, as travel began to cross the prairies of Iowa, and conditions of settlement improved, they succeeded in developing a fine little town, always hoping for a promised railroad which never came, executing the New England grit which built states. It is related in the Ellis History of Nevin that the first party of colonists wandered around for several days before they could find out where Nevin was located, and that the first year or two the privations and discouragements were such as were almost beyond the range of possibility.



## CHAPTER XVI

### JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Jackson Township comprises the whole of congressional township 75 north, range 33 west. The surface of the township is very rolling and is well adapted to stock grazing. It is well watered by the west branch of the Middle Nodaway River and its tributaries. The main stream enters the township from the north, on the upper line of section 4, and traverses that section, together with 9, 10, 15, 22, 27, 34 and 33, leaving on the south line of the latter. Rutt's Branch, one of the affluents of this stream, enters the township from Summerset, at the northeast corner of section 12, and flowing through sections 12, 1, 11, 14, makes a confluence with the main stream in the southeast quarter of section 15. At one time there was considerable timber within the boundaries of the township, but with the progress of agriculture this has been largely cleared away. Game was also abundant during the early days. The buffalo were here before the first settlers came, but long before the advent of the latter, had completely disappeared. The wapiti, or elk, were here, however, as were the deer. The elk were killed off during the hard winter of 1856-7. It is said that so great were their numbers at one time that Abner Root and John G. Vawter marked a route from the east branch to the middle branch of the Nodaway River, a distance of five or six miles, by planting elk horns which they picked up by the way within sight of each other the whole distance. Deer remained for many years after the wapiti had gone.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

The first man to make a home in Jackson Township was Alfred Jones, Sr. He was a native of North Carolina, but came here from Kentucky on June 3, 1852, and located on section 4, accompanied by his family. Here he resided until his death on October 18, 1881.

About the middle of June of the same year, 1852, Willis Lyons squatted upon section 12 and there built a home. He afterwards



abandoned this house and lived in an underground dwelling, cut into a bank near the old spring on section 11. Lyons claimed much of what was afterwards Vawter's Grove, which claim he later sold to a Mr. Taylor. Lyons did not stay in this county very long, but followed the tide of emigration westward and lost himself to the knowledge of people in this locality. Taylor was not a permanent settler either, but had only stopped here while on his way to California with a drove of cattle and purchased the interests of Lyons, where he kept his stock until the spring, when he continued on his lonely trek across the continent.

During the year 1852 John Cears, one of the best reputed men of the township, came here and located on section 3.

Azariah Root settled on section 11 in the fall of 1853, together with his family. He constructed a cabin of logs with a frame addition.

Abner Root settled on section 11 in the fall of 1853. Accompanying him was his father. Four years later he removed to section 12 and erected a frame house, in which he lived for several years. In 1876 he moved to Eureka Township. He served as the first sheriff of Adair County.

In 1855 John Martin located upon section 12 and acted as the agent of John G. Vawter, a merchant of Winterset, on this land, which belonged to Vawter and a partner named Lansing. Martin continued to live here until 1866, when he moved to Kansas and there died.

J. J. Leeper, afterward county judge, made a settlement on section 34 in 1854, but left here for Washington Township two years later.

John Kenney located upon section 5 in 1855, where he lived until 1860, when he went to the State of Kansas. He later moved to California.

William Johnson, a former resident of Michigan, was a settler of the year 1856, locating upon the northeast quarter of section 4 during that year.

George Miller settled on section 23 or 24 about the year 1856. He was from Wayne County, Ind., and while here followed the trade of carpentering in connection with his farming.

J. P. Sullivan, a native of Monroe County, Ind., came here in 1856 and settled upon the northeast quarter of section 24, where he lived for twenty years. In 1876 he left here and moved to Nebraska,

and later to Kansas. J. B. Sullivan located in this township on section 34 in 1856.

John W. Stinman came to Adair County in 1857 and first rented the farm of J. J. Walter on section 11, where he remained two years, then removed to the farm of George Rider, staying there also for two years. He then bought a piece of land on section 9, and there built a log house, 16 by 18 feet, in 1860. In this he lived about eight years. The house was torn down in 1884. He moved from his log house to a more commodious residence which he had constructed in 1863.

Eli Roberts came from Clarke County, Ia., in 1857 and took up his residence with J. B. Sullivan. He was engaged in breaking land for other parties and in 1859 constructed a house on the Sullivan place. In 1861 he moved to Oregon and from there to Colorado, where he died in 1882.

G. P. Rider made a settlement on section 22 in 1858. He came from New York State and returned there in 1860.

Aaron Codner made a settlement on section 15 in 1863 and remained for many years, or until 1877, when he went to Kansas.

Lemuel Lewis came to this township in 1863 and located on section 5. He was a native of Tompkins County, N. Y.

Among the settlers of 1865 were John Hall Bryant on section 12 and F. V. Jeffreys on section 3. S. M. Kendrick settled on section 32 in 1866, lived there ten years, and then moved to Nebraska.

Joel A. Aspinwall moved to Adair County in 1869. He became interested in this territory through his uncle, Doctor Bates.

August W. Rechtenbach, a native of Germany, came here in 1869, and became one of the foremost citizens in Jackson Township.

Gustave G. Rechtenbach, also a native of Germany, located here in 1880.

Truman L. Lewis came to Fontanelle in 1863 with his parents. He was a native of New York State. When he first came to Fontanelle he clerked for J. C. Gibbs and worked in and about town until the spring of 1866, when he entered the farming vocation.

Henry J. Roos came to Adair County in 1881 and located upon 160 acres of land in Jackson Township. He was a native of Germany.

Henry Burg, born in Germany, served in the Civil war in the 140th Illinois Infantry, and then came to Adair County and located in Jackson Township.

Jacob Burg, a brother of Henry, came to Adair County in 1879 and located on section 18.

Edwin R. Faurote located in Summerset Township, this county, in 1871, and after several months there came to Jackson Township. John Hall Bryant, a grandfather of Mrs. Faurote, came to Adair County in 1865 and settled on section 12, Jackson Township.

Norman Norton came to the township in 1861 from Cass County, Ia., and in 1864 settled on section 4. He was justice of the township in 1862 and again in 1880-81, also has been township trustee.

John Latas came to Adair County in 1868. He was a native of Poland, served in the Austrian army during the Hungarian war, and in 1850 escaped from the army to England, and from thence came to America, where he wandered considerably over the country before settling down in Jackson Township.

George Reis, from Germany, located here in 1880. Here he became identified as a very successful farmer.

Josiah A. Daugherty came to this county on May 31, 1869, and bought 175 acres of land from Truman Poce. He was a Pennsylvanian, born in 1829.

Isaac Bailey, from Ohio, came to Adair County in the fall of 1873 and bought a farm.

#### FIRST ITEMS

The first election for township officers was held in October, 1861, at the house of Abner Root.

The first preaching in the township was at the home of Alfred Jones, Sr., by Rev. Harris Standly.

The first election in Jackson Township was held in 1853, while this county was a part of Cass County, at which time Alfred Jones, Sr., was elected justice of the peace.

The first marriage in the township was that of Joseph W. Betts and Polly C. Thompson on August 18, 1856. The ceremony was performed by Judge Azariah Root.

The pioneer steam mill of the county was built in Jackson Township by Mr. Vawter on section 11 in 1859. This was in what was called Vawter's Grove, the greater part of which was claimed by Willis Lyons in 1852, but which claim he sold out to a Mr. Taylor, who in turn disposed of it to Vawter and Lansing, partners. The mill was not a paying investment and was soon afterwards removed.

The first death in Jackson Township was that of Mrs. John Martin, which occurred on December 24, 1860. The body of the deceased

was interred on Azariah Root's farm, but in 1869 was disinterred and placed in the cemetery on section 12.

The first child born in the township was that of Miniture Jones in 1853.

For early educational statistics relative to Jackson Township, see the chapter on the progress of education in Adair County.

#### ORGANIZATION

Jackson Township was organized in 1861 and the first election occurred on October 8th at the house of Abner Root, at which time the following officers were chosen: Abner Root, E. Whitney and James Tolen, trustees; J. P. Sullivan, clerk; J. B. Sullivan, assessor; N. Norton and N. S. Taylor, justices and road supervisors.

#### POSTOFFICE

There was a postoffice called Jackson established in 1872 with Ed Bancroft as postmaster. He ran it for about two years when he was succeeded by Lemuel Lewis in April, 1874.

## CHAPTER XVII

### LINCOLN TOWNSHIP

Like the other townships, Lincoln occupies the space of a full congressional township. The only stream of importance is the North River, which flows in a diagonal course through sections 18, 19, 30, 29, 28, 33, 34, 35 and 36, passing from the latter into the adjoining County of Madison. On Section 36 it makes a confluence with Grassy Run which rises on section 6 in the northwest corner of the township and flows in a southeasterly direction through sections 5, 8, 9, 16, 21, 22, 27, 26 and 36. There are other branches and creeks, which supply an ample quantity of water for all purposes.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

The first settlement in the township was made by Zimri Horner, who entered land October 24, 1854, on section 2, and moved on to it a few weeks later. Horner was a native of Indiana. He afterwards moved to Wyseotte, Ia., and erected a mill, selling his farm in 1863 to A. L. McPherson.

The next settlement in Lincoln was made by John F. Coppock, shortly after that made by Horner, who purchased a farm near the center of the township on Section 22 and constructed a small dwelling out of the native timber. Coppock was a mechanic and made some good improvements. He came from Indiana, to which state he later returned.

Calvin Carson entered eighty acres of land in 1854, but did not move upon it until 1855.

Albert Barnett came also in 1855 and settled on a farm on North River.

Robert Ewers settled at an early date near Stuart on section 3 and kept the old house then known as the Octagon House.

Milton Mills was among the early settlers of Lincoln and entered



land on the southeast quarter of section 3 or the southwest quarter of section 2.

Another pioneer settler in this township was William Stevens, who located on section 25. The farm was originally the property of A. L. McPherson, but the first improvements were made after Stevens came into possession of the land.

Orin Dinsmore came the same year as Stevens. A man by the name of Garnett was also an early settler.

#### ITEMS

The first death in Lincoln Township was that of a son of Zimri Horner, named William, who died January 7, 1862, at the age of eight years, seven months and twenty days.

The next death was that of Robert Ewers on March 16, 1864.

The first ground in the township was broken by either Zimri Horner or John Coppock. They also planted the first crops, such as corn and wheat.

The first schoolhouse in Lincoln was commenced in 1862 and completed in 1863.

The first marriage in the township occurred in July, 1868. It was that of Charles Smith and Harriett Nelson, the ceremony being performed by Rev. J. W. McPherson.

The first religious services were held during the fall and winter of 1868 at a schoolhouse then known as the Lindley schoolhouse, but which has long ago been removed and destroyed. Reverend McPherson had several appointments during the fall and winter season of 1868.

#### ORGANIZATION

Lincoln Township was organized in 1861. The following were the first officers elected: Milton Mills, member of board of supervisors; Robert Ewers, justice of peace; Zimri Horner, clerk; John Compton, assessor.

Union Church of Lincoln Township was organized in the late '70s and represented all denominations. In the early years of its existence services were held every two weeks at the schoolhouse in the independent district of Mount Vernon.

North River Union Sunday School was first organized in the summer of 1882, when B. F. Fry was elected superintendent.

## STUART

A small portion of the Town of Stuart extends over the line from Guthrie County into Adair County in this township. This portion comprises the Third Ward of Stuart and has about four hundred people living in it. This is mostly a residence district. For legal and taxation purposes this strip of town is counted as a part of Adair County.

Charles Stuart, in whose honor the Town of Stuart was named, was a Chicago capitalist who purchased a large amount of land in Lincoln Township and he was instrumental in persuading the Rock Island officials to locate the Town of Stuart. He built an elevator and for several years bought and shipped grain, while developing his large farm in conjunction with George Gray. He did a large business in that part of the country.

Alfred Osborn was an early settler of the township and served a term as county supervisor. T. P. Neville and C. A. Ostrander were also prominent early settlers of that township and each served several years as county supervisor. George Smith, afterward county auditor, was another settler of the township.

## CHAPTER XVIII

### HARRISON TOWNSHIP

#### TOPOGRAPHY

This township is watered by the Middle River and its branches. The stream enters the township on section 7, flowing in a diagonal course through sections 18, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 35 and 36, leaving the township on the latter section. At one time there was quite a quantity of timber in this township.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

Harrison Township originally comprised all the territory contained in Lincoln, Grand River and Union townships.

The first to seek a home in Harrison Township was William McDonald, who was also one of the first settlers of Adair County. He settled upon section 26 in August, 1849, where he erected a small log cabin. In the spring of 1850 he moved his family here. During the same year he raised a small crop of corn, wheat, etc., which was the first agricultural work accomplished in the township.

James Roberts was another of the first comers to this township, settling with his family on section 36 on September 19, 1854. His first dwelling was a small log cabin, with stick and clay chimney. At that time they were compelled to journey to a point below Winterset to get their corn ground and to Indianola for flour. Roberts was a Kentuckian.

Robert J. Murphy came to Adair County on the 1st of September, 1854, and located upon section 25 in Harrison Township.

Zebulon Hollingsworth made a settlement in the fall of 1854, coming from his native state, Indiana. He died in 1858 in Madison County.

In April, 1855, William Thomas settled upon section 32. He was born in Madison County, Ky.

During the summer of 1855 Manning Drake came to the township. He kept a stage station in the eastern part for some time. He was elected to the office of county judge, but did not qualify. He afterward disposed of his property and left the county.

Charles Friend made a settlement in this township prior to the fall of 1855. William Stinson also settled about the same time as Friend.

Samuel W. Pryor, a native of Tennessee, came from Washington County, Ia., and made a settlement in Harrison on August 1, 1856, on section 34.

S. W. Pryor was for several years county surveyor and kept an important stage station on the route between Fontanelle and Winterset. He was well known among the early settlers.

William McAferty settled on section 20 in the year 1857.

Another of the pioneer settlers of the township was George Wright, a Kentuckian. He came here in 1857 and entered land on section 13.

Edward Lee made a settlement on section 34 in the fall of 1859. He was native of England, coming to this country in 1849.

John B. Rodgers is another of the first comers. He came in the spring of 1861. He was deputy auditor for one year, after which he engaged in the insurance and land business at Orient and Port Union.

#### ORGANIZATION

The organization of Harrison County occurred in 1856, Charles McDonald being elected the first clerk.

#### PORT UNION POSTOFFICE

A postoffice was established in 1857 in Harrison Township, on section 34, with Daniel A. Pooram as postmaster and was called Arbor Hill. About a year afterwards he left the township and Samuel W. Pryor received an appointment to the office by President Buchanan, and he held the same until 1868. The highest salary received either of these years was \$28 and the smallest \$4 per annum. The office was on the Winterset and Greenfield route, but was afterward removed to Port Union. Dissatisfaction resulted from the change, it being somewhat out of the way, and the carrier refused to take the mail to the office. A petition was immediately circulated, which resulted in a daily mail from Stuart to Greenfield.

## STORES

A store was opened at Port Union in January, 1883, by Fisher Brothers, who carried a general stock. The postoffice was in this building and J. W. Fisher was the postmaster.

There was also another general store at this point, owned and operated by J. B. Rodgers.

Steward Fisher had the first blacksmith shop at this point and Gottlieb Bornmann operated a wagon shop.

## NOTES

The first mill in the township was erected in 1870 on section 20 by Beaman & Thomas, residents of the township. They died before it was completed, there being but a week between the two deaths. It was then sold at administrator's sale to Parrish & Headley, who completed it in 1872 and continued to operate it for a year and a half, at the expiration of which time the former bought out the interest of the latter and operated it for two years longer. The Beaman heirs then purchased the mill, but retained it only for nine months, when they sold to F. H. Parrish. On November 10, 1883, it was sold at referee's sale to Thomas Salisbury and in January, 1884, he sold to J. B. Rodgers.

The first child born in Harrison Township was a daughter to John and Sarah J. (McDonald) Stinson and was christened Mary J.

The first death occurred in 1850, being a child of William McDonald. It was buried in the Roberts cemetery.

William Stinson and a Miss Crow were the first people to be married in the township.

William McDonald broke the first ground in the spring of 1850 and planted the first corn, being seven acres in the sod. The year following he sowed the first wheat in the township.

The first religious services were held in 1855, by the Christian Church, at the houses of James Roberts and William McDonald, with Rev. Adam Kellison as the first preacher.

Mount Zion church of Harrison Township was organized in 1855 and was located on section 9. Services were held at first at the residences of the different members. A building was constructed in the summer of 1881. Rev. J. B. McGinnis was the first pastor after the church building was constructed.



The cemetery in connection with Mount Zion Church was laid out in February, 1876. The first interment was that of the body of Joshua Jones, a brother of Elijah Jones.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church started an organization in the '70s, with a first membership of six people. They held their first church services at a schoolhouse on section 8. The first pastor of the church was Rev. James Mumford of Kansas.

## CHAPTER XIX

### GROVE TOWNSHIP

Grove Township is well watered by the Middle River, Grand River, Turkey Creek and numerous smaller branches throughout the township. There has never been very much timber of natural growth here. The soil is of a rich, dark and sandy loam.

#### ORGANIZATION

The official organization of Grove Township occurred in 1860. At the first election in November of that year the following officers were elected: P. C. Barrows, clerk; S. Barrows, justice of the peace; John Bruce, member of board of supervisors; J. M. Witt, Jacob Bruce, S. Barrows, trustees; J. M. Witt, P. C. Barrows, constables; Jacob Bruce, road supervisor; S. Barrows, assessor.

The name Grove was suggested by Jacob Bruce, one of the pioneers of Jefferson Township, and was adopted officially.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

The first settlement in Grove Township was made by J. R. Pierce, who entered land in 1856. He resided here about four years, when he removed to Kansas.

W. H. Brainard entered land in Grove Township in 1857.

James McMaster, a pioneer settler of Grove Township, located a claim on section 4 in an early day. He remained here for a number of years, after which he removed to Creston and there died.

John Wagner came in the spring of 1869 and settled upon section 29. He remained here until 1875 and then went to Guthrie County.

James Merritt also came in the spring of 1869 and settled upon section 29. In 1875 he went, with his family, to the State of Kansas.

In April, 1869, Fred Schutze entered land on section 29.

P. O. Swisher came in March, 1870, and entered land on section 20.

Gordon Shanklin was among the early settlers of Grove. He located on section 4, where he remained until 1882, then removing to Guthrie County.

#### ITEMS

Groveland postoffice was established in 1870 with Frederick Hodges as postmaster. He held the office until April, 1872, when Asa Wilson was appointed. Following him came Hugh Gray, M. Howell, and Mr. Walbridge.

In June, 1877, five acres in the southeast corner of section 9 were purchased from the heirs of H. N. Peck, for \$45, for use as a cemetery. The first interment was the body of Mr. Aiken.

In 1873 the Groveland Sunday School was organized with J. B. Dunn, superintendent, and P. O. Swisher, assistant superintendent.

The first birth in Grove Township was a child to Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Smith.

The first death in the township was that of a Mr. Taylor.

The first minister to hold services was Rev. J. B. McGinnis.

The first marriage was that of William Sproul and Elizabeth Stuart in 1864. They afterwards removed to Kansas.

Mr. Brainard broke the first ground in the township in 1857. He also sowed the first wheat and oats and planted the first corn.

The first house erected was by J. R. Pierce in 1856. He also set out the first orchard in the township.

## CHAPTER XX

### EUREKA TOWNSHIP

Eureka Township embraces congressional township 76, range 33, and is one of the latest settled civil divisions of the county. The population in the year 1873 was but sixty-eight. The township has an abundance of good streams, chief among them being the Middle Nodaway River, Nine Mile Creek and the several affluents of each. The Middle Nodaway enters the township on the north line of the northwest quarter of section 6 and flowing at first southerly through sections 6, 7, 18 and 19, changes its course to a southeasterly one and crosses sections 29, 32 and 33, making its exit on the south line of the latter. Nine Mile Creek passes through sections 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 22, 23, 27 and 34. There never has been very much natural timber within the boundaries of the county.

#### FIRST SETTLEMENTS

The first men to settle in what is now Eureka Township were Henry and Nicholas Henning. They came in 1860. They purchased the land on section 31 in 1857, but did not move on to it until the first stated year, although they improved and cultivated it. They were natives of Germany. These brothers started the first brick yard in the county in 1858. This was then in Washington Township. The next year they followed the same line of business in Jackson Township. For many years they were the only settlers in the township and in 1867-68-69, when others began to come in they came so rapidly that it is hard to learn the proper sequence of their arrival. Among the more prominent ones at the time were: Darwin M. Schenck, Marx Hell, Christian and David Eshelman, Fred H. Cears, Charles E. Schenck, Andrew J. Kingery, Albert Hadley, John J. Stinman, Ferdinand A. J. Warner, E. M. Smith, Lewis Daniels.

#### ORGANIZATION

In the summer of 1870 the township was set off from Jackson, of which it had formed a part. The name, it is said, was suggested

by J. W. Stinman, on account of finding some indications of coal within its borders. The first officers were as follows: James Tippin, G. W. Snyder, Sr., and Orlando Howe, trustees; John J. Stinman, clerk; B. F. Jones, justice; John Snyder, constable; Fred H. Cears, assessor; Henry Henning, road supervisor.

#### ITEMS

The Henning brothers, as before stated, broke the first ground in the township. They planted the first corn in 1859 and sowed the first wheat in 1860. They set out the first orchard in 1869. Henry Henning erected the first frame house in the township on section 31 in 1860.

A round log house was constructed on section 33 by Miniture Jones in the summer of 1856. This was the first house in the township.

The first marriage of a resident of this township was that of Nicholas Henning to Eliza Little on February 15, 1868. The ceremony was performed by Judge N. S. Taylor at Fontanelle.

The first to be married after the township had been organized were Fred H. Cears and Emma Trowbridge. Rev. F. A. Goodrich spoke the words of union on March 10, 1872.

The first deaths were those of two brothers, named Imus, about Christmas, 1859, who were frozen to death.

The first religious services were held at the old Jones schoolhouse by Reverends Peet and Thomas about 1859. The former was a Congregationalist and the latter was a Methodist.

Eureka Cemetery was surveyed in the fall of 1878 and originally contained about three acres of ground. It is located upon the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 22. Nancy Daniels was the first to be interred, having been buried a few days previous to the survey.



## CHAPTER XXI

### PRUSSIA TOWNSHIP

#### TOPOGRAPHY

Prussia Township is watered by the east branch of the Nodaway River which enters from the north on section 41 and running thence in a southerly direction through sections 9, 16, 15, 22, 27, 26, 35 and 36, leaving the township from the latter section. A small creek known as Rutt's Branch also waters the western tier of sections in the township. There never has been much timber in the township.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

The pioneer settler of Prussia Township was James Hornback, who settled upon section 16. His house at that time consisted chiefly of a "dug-out," although there was a small shanty above. He came here from Madison County.

The next to come to this township was Peter Hoffman, who located upon section 10 in 1868. He was a native of Germany.

J. N. Bittner located a claim in the fall of 1868 on section 2, coming from Lee County, Ill.

John G. Martin emigrated from Lee County, Ill., in the fall of 1868 and settled on a farm in the township on section 10.

William and Fred Kiefer were also among the early settlers of the township, coming in September, 1868, from Lee County, Ill.

#### ORGANIZATION

Prussia Township was organized in 1870. A petition of the prominent citizens of the township was accepted and acted upon at the June meeting of the board of supervisors. Although it was the will of the petitioners to call the township Clark, the board gave the name of Prussia. The first election was held in the fall of 1870, when

the following officers were chosen: Charles Clark, clerk; Peter Hoffman, justice of the peace; John Vance, Charles Milner, Lee Tolen, trustees; Mr. Sager, constable; Peter Hoffman, road supervisor; Lee Tolen, assessor. There were only nine votes cast at this election, seven of the republican and two democratic. Charles Clark disposed of his property and left the township before the expiration of his office term and Jerome Vance was appointed by the trustees to fill the vacancy.

#### ITEMS

The first death was that of Mrs. J. G. Martin in December, 1868. She was buried on her own premises.

The first child born was a son to Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Martin.

The first marriage was that of Albert Kalkofen and Elizabeth Zornes. Peter Hoffman, justice of the peace, officiated.

The first organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church occurred in 1879 at the schoolhouse in district No. 5. Reverend Wilburn was the first pastor.

The first house which was erected in the township was destroyed by a prairie fire in 1873. At the time of its destruction it was occupied by George Coon and family, who barely escaped with their lives.

Peter Hoffman built the second house in the township.

A cemetery on Section 15 was laid out June 15, 1878, and contained one acre. The first person to be buried there was Margaret Emmons, wife of J. Emmons, who died October 1, 1878. The German cemetery on section 10 contained one acre and the first interment was that of Mrs. Fred Kiefer.

## CHAPTER XXII

### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

Washington Township embraces all of congressional township 74, range 33. The township is well watered by the Nodaway River and its branches, along which at one time considerable timber was found. The soil is very rich and productive.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

Washington Township was the first in Adair County to be settled. During the early days the pioneers were obliged to go to Marysville, Mo., to do their milling, a distance of over one hundred miles. During the dry season, when the water was low, they had to go still farther, to Rochester, Mo.

The first man to come to the township, with the intention of making therein a home for himself, was Thomas Johnson, who settled upon section 4 in the spring of 1849. He erected a small log cabin and broke some ground, upon which he raised a small crop of wheat, corn, potatoes, vegetables, etc., during the first year of his settlement. He emigrated from Lawrence County, Ind., in 1841, to Page County, Ia., where he remained until he came to this township. In 1861 he removed to Oregon.

James R. Campbell was another prominent early settler of this township. He entered land on section 3 in the spring of 1850.

In June, 1854, a man named Bowers came to the township and settled upon the farm afterward known as the Shelby Garner place. Shortly afterwards he opened a blacksmith shop at this place, which was the first business of the kind in the county.

In July, 1854, James and John Standley settled in the subdivision of the county now known as Washington, on section 3, but John afterwards moved to Adams County. These brothers were natives of North Carolina. Their father was a minister of the Disciples denomination.

At the same time as the Stanleys, Ambrose Jenkins made a settlement in the township.

Monroe Winn came in 1854 and settled on section 31. He was a native of Hancock County, Ind.

During the summer of 1854 Thomas Thompson, David, Samuel and Henry McClure entered land in the township. Samuel moved to Jackson Township, while the other two subsequently moved from the county.

In November, 1854, Washington received another citizen, named Shelby Garner. He was born in Wayne County, Ind.

Samuel Thompson, a native of Montgomery County, Ind., came to Adair County in the fall of 1854 and located upon section 16 in Washington Township. In the fall of 1865 he removed to Jackson Township.

Elijah B. Sullivan, a native of Indiana, was another of the first comers. In December, 1854, he entered land on Section 16 and erected a log cabin and in January, 1855 he moved his family to the township. With him came his brothers, Titus H. and J. B.

Peter Steckel and family made a settlement in the spring of 1855. Boyd D., their son, was elected as the first prosecuting attorney of the county, although not a qualified lawyer. He afterward enlisted in the army during the Civil war and gave up his life on the field of honor.

J. J. Leeper, Robert Snodgrass and James Bradley came in June, 1855. The two latter gentlemen afterward moved to Oregon.

John Ammon made a settlement during the year 1855. He was a member of the first grand jury of the county. He afterward moved to Missouri, where he died.

Titus Sullivan was another of the early settlers of Washington. He entered land in the summer of 1855. He then changed his residence to Summerset Township, where he passed his entire life.

In the year 1855 John Ireland settled in the township and was sheriff of the county at one time. He left the township and while on his journey to Washington Territory died.

William and Francis Corr made a settlement before the fall of 1855. Francis held the office of county judge and treasurer at one time.

Hugh McCall entered land on section 25 in 1855.

Joseph Dunlap settled on the northwest quarter of section 24 in 1855, entering the land. He was born in the State of New Hampshire.

Another settler of the township was D. M. Strong, a native of New York State. He became a successful farmer in Adair County.

S. J. Casteel came to this county in 1865; B. W. Witt in 1875; Thomas Kembery in 1861; J. G. Hendry in 1869; Henry Griffin in 1864; Royal Guile in 1865; S. C. Bloom in 1865; James Moar in 1872; Benjamin Briggs in 1870.

#### ORGANIZATION

Washington Township is one of the oldest townships of the County of Adair, having been organized in 1854, the same year that the county itself was organized. At that time the county was about equally divided into two townships—Washington and Harrison. Washington was gradually diminished by the setting off of other townships, until it is now a congressional subdivision, technically known as township 74 north, range 33 west.

#### PIONEER NOTES

A mill was erected at an early date by Thomas Johnson, which was the first in the township. Their principal business at that time was grinding corn, although there was a bolt for wheat, which was operated by hand.

The first marriage in the township was that of Manoah S. Sullivan and Sarah A. Standley on November 7, 1855.

The first religious services were held at the residence of Thomas Johnson on section 4 in 1858.

The first birth was that of a daughter to Thomas and Rosa Johnson. She was born in May, 1850, and was named Margaret.

The first death in the township was a child of Thomas and Rosa Johnson.

The first postoffice in Washington was kept by Thomas Johnson at his house on section 4. He received his commission in 1855. It was known by the name of Adair postoffice.

The second birth in the township was that of Ann, the daughter of John Gilman, in the year 1851.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL

James H. Hulbert was one of the early settlers in Washington Township, where he improved a large farm and raised stock exten-



sively for a number of years. He had a store at his place, called Avondale, and bought corn in large quantities for feeding purposes. He later moved to Fontanelle, about twenty-five years ago, and engaged in business, dealing in lumber, grain, stock and real estate. He moved to Galesburg, Ill., where he remained for two or three years, returning to Fontanelle, where he built several fine residences which he sold and a costly one for his own use. He bought a quantity of land in Washington State and lots in Vancouver. To his Washington estate he bought in Michigan and shipped two carloads of recorded Holstein cows and established a milk ranch. He was for six years a member of the board of supervisors of Adair County and carried on a larger business in various lines than any other man in the county for many years. He died at Fontanelle in 1912.

Jay S. Hulbert was connected with his brother, J. H., in stock feeding operations in Washington Township and conducted a large farm there for twenty years or more. He was treasurer of Adair County for two terms, afterwards president of the First National Bank of Fontanelle for some years. He moved to the State of Idaho, where he is now engaged in farming.

The Sullivan families, Elijah, John, Titus and Jahn were early settlers of note. Elijah and Jahn settled in the timber of Washington Township; Titus and John near Fontanelle. Titus and John were Mexican war soldiers. All raised children and the families have been prominent in the early history of the county. John and family moved to Nebraska in the '70s. Jahn is still living at Bridgewater.

## CHAPTER XXIII

### GRAND RIVER TOWNSHIP

#### TOPOGRAPHY

The land in this township is of the finest quality, the surface rolling, and in the vicinity of the river, quite abrupt. It is one of the best watered townships in the county, as three considerable streams traverse it, together with many tributaries. Grand River, the largest and most important, enters this township on the north and west lines of section 6, in two branches which unite in the northeast corner of that section. Flowing thence in a general southeasterly course it crosses sections 5, 8, 17, 16, 22, 27 and 35. Nine Mile Creek, or the south branch of Grand River, enters in the southwest quarter of section 31, and flowing nearly east, traverses sections 31, 32, 33, 34 and makes a confluence with the parent stream in the southwest quarter of section 35. Bush Branch, having its headwaters in Harrison Township, enters on the north of section 3, and waters sections 3, 2, 11 and 13, on the latter of which it makes its exit.

#### SETTLEMENT

Most probably the first man to make a settlement in the township was James Bush, who located upon section 13 in June, 1854. He was a native of Delaware County, Ohio.

In 1854 William Schweers, a native of Germany, located in the township with his family. He died in 1880.

George Grimma was the third to make a settlement, coming from Keokuk County, Ia., to this township and locating upon section 27 in October, 1855. He resided here until his death on September 18, 1879.

John Augustine, in the spring of 1855, settled upon section 29. This was about May 1st, and after erecting a log cabin, he set about to open a farm.

Nelson Phinney located upon section 25 in 1855, where he remained some years, then removed to Winterset.

William Shoemaker came here in 1855 and located upon section 25. He afterwards went to Union Township.

In 1856 Christian Augustine came to Grand River Township and settled on section 29, where he took up a claim. He had come to the county in 1855. He was a native of Germany.

George W. Hawkins, who served in the First Iowa Cavalry in the War of the Rebellion settled on section 1 of Grand River Township in 1869. John W. Perry and George C. Sackett settled on section 2 in 1870. About the only settlers in the present township of Grand River at that time were James Bush, Joel Savage and possibly some of the Bunce brothers, three or four of whom came about the same time.

#### ORGANIZATION

Grand River Township, which then embraced all of what is now Union and Grand River, was organized in 1855 and the first election was held at the house of William Schweers on section 34. It is said that there were only thirteen votes polled at this time. John Augustine was elected township clerk and Alvin Greer, justice of the peace. Robert Wilson, Alvin Greer and Nelson Phinney were the first trustees.

## CHAPTER XXIV

### UNION TOWNSHIP

#### TOPOGRAPHY

The surface of Union Township is quite rolling and is well drained by numerous streams. The principal one of these waterways is the Grand River in the northeast part of the township, on sections 1, 2 and 12. The west branch having its headwaters in sections 9, 8 and 17 flows east and southeast through sections 9, 16, 15, 14, 13 and 24, on the way to join the parent stream. Three Mile Creek, rising on the township line near the west line of section 7, flows in a southerly course, and makes its exit from Union Township and Adair County on the southeast quarter of section 32. Numerous other streams run through all parts of the township. The soil is rich and is of sandy loam.

#### SETTLEMENT

The pioneer comer to this township was Charles Wilson, who came here in the spring of 1853, being among the early settlers of the county. He was a native of England, and came to this country when he was eighteen years of age. In Adair County he located on section 12 and pitched a tent in which he and his family lived for four months, when he erected a log cabin. He became well known in the township and held several positions of trust.

The next to locate in this township was Christian Gerkin, a native of Germany, having been born in that country in 1816. He located on section 2.

William Schweers settled on section 34, this township, in 1854. He was a native of Hanover, Germany. He died in the year 1882.

Robert Wilson was the next to locate here, taking up a claim on Section 12, in 1854.

L. R. McWhinney, in 1867, settled in the township and developed a large farm. He was a prominent member of the board of super-

visors and was much interested in progressive development. He was afterward compelled to leave the farm and then moved to Creston, where for a time he owned an elevator. He also built an elevator at Spaulding. He died a few years ago.

Thomas K. Wilson, another early resident of Union Township, served in the War of the Rebellion and afterwards in the Indian Wars, winning commendation for bravery and gallantry. He married a daughter of L. R. McWhinney and retiring from the farm which he still retained, moved to Creston and engaged in the insurance business. He was a director in the Adair County Mutual Insurance Association at the time of his death.

Jerry W. Wilson was another settler of the township, a man of unquestioned integrity, prominent in every good work and a veteran of the Civil war. He acquired a large amount of land when it was cheap and became very wealthy. He served the county as supervisor for several years and one term in the General Assembly, refusing a second term. He was a large shareholder in the national bank at Macksburg, Madison County, and was president of the board of directors. He was largely instrumental in getting the railroad from Creston to Macksburg. He was killed by a lightning bolt while going to his home.

O. W. C. Brown, a Campbellite preacher, was an early resident of Union Township, living here until his death.

Another prominent farmer of this township was A. S. Lynn. He helped to raise an endowment of \$50,000 for Palmer College, at Le Grand, near Marshalltown, Ia. He was the most important factor in the building of the Creston and Macksburg Railroad. His daughter, Victoria, is a noted elocutionist and has been in the employ of a Lyceum for the past few years.

#### ITEMS

The first birth in Union Township was that of O. H. Greer, son of Alvin Greer, in 1854.

The first death was that of R. A. Wilson, who departed this life in December, 1855.

The first school was taught by William Kivet in 1857 in a school house built the same year on section 12.

The first marriage in the township was that of George Harmon and Anna Schweers.

In 1875 a cemetery of about six acres was set aside on section 16. The first interment was that of the two children of George Schweers.



## CHAPTER XXV

### WALNUT TOWNSHIP

#### TOPOGRAPHY

There are two main streams of water in this township, Turkey Creek and Middle River. Middle River enters at the northern line of section 3, takes a winding course in an easterly direction, passing out of the township at the northern line of section 2. It enters the township again at the extreme northwest corner of section 1, flows in a southeasterly direction, making its final exit into Jefferson Township on section 12. Turkey Creek has for its source sections 15 and 16, passing through sections 14, 23 and 25 into Jefferson Township. The soil is dark and sandy loam. The surface is rolling and what timber there is may be found along Middle River.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

Charles Smith, one of the pioneer settlers of Walnut Township, emigrated with his family from Marion County, Ind., to section 4 in October, 1855. He was a native of North Carolina.

Lewis Underwood came to the township with his family in April, 1854, from Henry County, Ia. He was a native of South Carolina, but had lived for some years in Randolph County, Ind. He settled upon section 12, where he built a cabin. He died here in 1867.

A. G. Weeks, a Mormon preacher, a native of Polk County, Ind., settled upon section 3 during the year 1855. He remained here until 1863, when he disposed of his property to R. H. Marshall.

James Thompson came to the township in 1855. He was a native of North Carolina.

Isaac Arledge arrived shortly after the settlement of A. G. Weeks during the year 1856.

In 1863 R. H. Marshall emigrated to Walnut Township, buying forty acres of land on section 3 of A. G. Weeks.

Abram Rutt, who came in 1866 and entered land on section 16, was another of the early settlers.

Another early settlement was made in this township in 1868 by Moses Stockwell. He was a Kentuckian. He settled on section 4.

#### SCRAPS

A cemetery was laid out in 1860 on section 2. The first interment was that of the body of Mary Thompson, March 16, 1860.

The first marriage was that of Joseph Betts and Cornelia Thompson, by Squire Root, in August, 1856.

The first death was that of Mary Thompson, March 15, 1860.

The first log cabin was built by Lewis Underwood during the winter of 1854. In 1855 James Thompson erected the second cabin. The first frame building was a schoolhouse. Moses Stockwell erected the second frame house.

In the spring of 1855 James Thompson planted the first corn. Charles Smith sowed the first wheat in the spring of 1856.

#### CASEY

A very small strip of the Town of Casey overlaps into Adair County from Guthrie. The major part of the town is on the latter side. Capt. Joseph Rutt came to Casey about 1872 and for a time managed the large farm belonging to his brother, Abram Rutt, afterward buying and developing a farm for himself. He served on the county board of supervisors for two terms. He died in Casey some years later. One of his sons is the manager of the Abram Rutt National Bank of Casey.

R. W. Hollembeak settled early in Walnut Township and engaged in raising fancy stock, having a large herd of Hereford cattle at one time. He served as representative in the General Assembly. He was accidentally killed at Casey by a railroad train while he was crossing the tracks.

Abram Rutt was born in Lancaster County, Pa., October 3, 1831, a son of Samuel and Susan (Whistler) Rutt. He was educated there and in the fall of 1853 came west, and in the spring of the next year located in Adair County. Here he helped to lay out Fontanelle, the first county seat of the county. In the '70s he engaged in the lumber business. In February, 1906, he organized the Abram Rutt National Bank of Casey and was the first president of this strong

institution. The bank opened for business in March, 1906. The bank is now erecting one of the handsomest banks in the state outside of the cities. Mr. Rutt married Sarah Valentine of Adair County in 1866. He also founded the Farmers Bank, a private institution, in February, 1886, which was merged with the Abram Rutt National Bank in 1906. "Uncle Abe," as he was known, passed from this earth on January 6, 1913, after an honorable and noble life. In his will Mr. Rutt bequeathed several thousands of dollars to various educational institutions.

William Valentine was born May 6, 1843, in Tippecanoe County, Ind., the son of John W. and Rebecca (Kinkennmon) Valentine. In 1855 he went west and bought cattle on an extensive scale, and in 1863 came to Fontanelle, Adair County, with his brother, J. K. At this time he pursued the agricultural vocation, continuing until 1877, when he went to Casey and engaged in the lumber business, in which he has remained until the present time. In 1866 he married Naomi I. Taylor, of Fontanelle.

## CHAPTER XXVI

### LEE TOWNSHIP

#### TOPOGRAPHY

The land in Lee Township is rolling, consisting almost entirely of prairie. The main waterways comprise three small creeks; the Nine Mile, Marvel and Battle. These supply water for all practical purposes. Nine Mile Creek rises in the southern half of section 19, Greenfield Township, and flows in a southeasterly course through sections 30, 29, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36, Lee Township, and on to its main body of water. Marvel Creek has its origin in section 17, Greenfield Township, passing southwest into section 21, Lee Township, thence northeast through sections 22, 15, 14, 13 and 12. The beginning of Battle Creek is traced to sections 4, 9, and 10, and also takes a northeasterly course through sections 11, 2 and 1.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT

S. K. Mallory and his son, Eri, were the first to settle in the territory now known as Lee Township, coming in the fall of 1857. They moved a log cabin from Grand River Township to section 26, where they took up their residence, this being the first dwelling house in the township. Through some doubtful tactics the son succeeded in getting possession of his father's property before a year had passed and the latter, with his wife, removed to Greenfield. Eri continued to farm the land for some time and later sold to a Mr. Marble. After the removal of S. K. Mallory to Greenfield, he resided in rented property. He grew very feeble and his wife was forced to make their living, a very meagre one, by her knitting. Several years later, after his son had left the country, the old man attempted suicide on Sunday morning, by climbing upon the machine used for weaving and placing a stick across a hole in the ceiling which led to the loft above. He tied a rope to the stick and also about his neck and swung from under

the machine. His wife came home from church in time to raise the alarm and neighbors cut the old man down and succeeded in reviving him.

The second to seek a permanent residence in the township was Samuel C. Vance, who came in the summer of 1859 and entered land upon section 16. In the fall of this year he erected a house, which was the second structure in the township. He afterwards moved to Summerset Township, this county.

As the permanent settlement did not commence for several years after those mentioned above, Thomas J. Shinn was probably the next settler, coming in September, 1868, and locating upon section 16. He was a native of Fulton County, Ill.

S. E. Morris was also among the early residents of the township.

#### EARLY EVENTS

The first house in the township was a log cabin moved onto section 26 by S. K. Mallory and son, Eri.

The first death which occurred in the township was that of Mrs. L. D. Parker in 1866 at her home in section 16.

The first election occurred in November, 1880, at Lett's school-house.

It is not positively known who was the first born in the township, but probably in the family of S. K. Mallory.

#### ORGANIZATION

Lee Township was organized in the fall of 1880. It was formerly a part of Greenfield Township. A petition was granted at the September meeting of the board of supervisors which took from Greenfield Township the following territory: All the territory within the limits of the territory of Greenfield Township, outside of the incorporated Town of Greenfield. Another change in the boundary of Greenfield and Lee townships took place by petition at the September meeting of the board of supervisors in 1881. There was taken from Lee Township and added to Greenfield Township sections 8, 17, 19, 20, north half of section 7, all of section 18, except ten acres already a part of Greenfield Township. After the organization of Lee Township was effected George C. Havens acted as first constable, and E. S. Chenoweth was the first clerk.



## CHAPTER XXVII

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### RAILROADS

The development of railroad facilities in Adair County has been very slow, owing to many circumstances. Many unsuccessful attempts were made during the early days to get a road to run a line through Adair County and on the 3d of September, 1866, the board of supervisors passed a resolution appropriating about \$800 toward making a railroad survey through the county of Adair and appointed three of their number, A. P. Littleton, F. M. Corr and James McMasters, as a committee to fix the time of the beginning of the survey, superintend its execution and pay the bills. Nothing tangible came of this, but in the year 1867 the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific laid out a road along the line dividing Adair from Guthrie County and partially in both of them. This, which was built the following year, became a great transportation medium for the stock and produce of the county. This road continued alone in the county until 1879, when the branch of the Burlington road was constructed from Creston, entering the Town of Fontanelle in April, 1879. In the year 1884 the line was projected on through to Cumberland in Cass County and completed in the year 1885.

Numerous attempts have been made in the last fifty years to run east and west lines through or into the county, but railroad rivalry has had largely to do with the failure of these enterprises. Also, several interurban lines have been proposed, but for one reason or another have been abandoned.

A railroad was projected from Creston to Macksburg in Madison County, through Orient and Union townships in Adair County, in the early years of the '00s. After many discouragements the farmers along the proposed way determined to secure the desired outlet. A tax was voted in Union Township, Adair County, and Grand River Township, in Madison County, and a company of farmers formed to

build the road. The Burlington road, with whom they were compelled to make connection at Creston, refused any accommodation or assistance, but the officers of the new road, notably A. L. Lynn and Jerry Wilson and sons, were men of intense energy and they succeeded in putting it through at large personal sacrifice.

In 1902-03 a promoter at Des Moines organized a company with the avowed object of building a railroad from some point on the Great Western south of Des Moines to Greenfield via Winterset. A survey and location was made and right of way secured, taxes voted through Harrison, Grove and Lee townships, and property bought in Greenfield for depot grounds in the north part of town. When it looked as if it might be accomplished the Rock Island Railroad Company surveyed a line parallel to it and a few miles south of the line chosen by the Des Moines Southern, and purchased the right of way through to Greenfield by way of Grand River and Lee townships. They accumulated a large amount of material and to all appearances were about to commence building, when the bottom dropped out of the whole project; the promoters of the Des Moines Southern had sold out to the Rock Island and the latter had accomplished its object of preventing a new road.

#### TELEPHONES

The growth of the telephone system in Adair County has been remarkable in the last score of years. Now practically every person in the county has telephone connection with the entire world, either from his own telephone or public one. The first local telephone system established in Greenfield was a private line connecting Ed A. Teague's residence and his store. It was put in by A. Rivenburgh and consisted of two cigar boxes and a string of wire. Some time later a telephone line was strung between Creston and Macksburgh, and later a line from Creston to Spaulding. The latter line was taken out and the line extended from Spaulding to Greenfield and then on to Fontanelle, Stuart and Winterset. C. E. Hall from Davenport engineered the work. A. Rivenburgh and others assisted. The first long distance office was at the Teague drug store on the west side of the public square and E. A. Teague was the operator. Later on, as business increased, and Teague had moved to California, the Bell telephone moved the office to a small building on the southeast corner of the square where William Romesha conducted a news stand and that gentleman, assisted by his daughters, operated the

system. This building burned and the long distance office was again moved and later conducted by Beatrice Romesha in connection with the Lincoln Mutual Company.

The first local system was established by A. Rivenburgh in the year 1896 and began operation in July of that year. It was a 50-drop system and the office was at the Rivenburgh residence, the operator being Myrtle Rivenburgh. This system operated for two years and one month, when the expense of keeping up the phones and lines became so heavy that it was discontinued. There were only four patrons the first month, J. G. Culver, Darrah & Culbertson, O. A. Tuttle and the depot. The number increased to twenty telephones and about thirteen patrons. Several residence telephones were included in this number.

The Hawkeye system and W. E. Rivenburgh, its first manager, took charge from 1902 to 1909. His successor, Clyde Miller, served after him until the present manager took charge, Mr. Belt. C. E. Hall, who engineered the putting in of the first long distance telephone line, later became manager of the whole southern Iowa system.

The first rural telephone company was the Farmers' Mutual, formed at Adair to build a line south seven or eight miles. This company was incorporated January 26, 1900. The next company was the Hawkeye, which built a line from Stuart to Greenfield with a center at the latter place. They also built several rural lines. The next company to be incorporated was the Lincoln Mutual in 1902. There were twenty-eight different companies and individual lines returned for taxation in September, 1914, aggregating 912 miles and assessed at \$38,575.25. As this assessment is supposed to be at less than one-fourth of the real value and as the value of the telephone instruments, of which there are several thousand in operation, is not included, it is reasonable to suppose that there is at least \$200,000 invested in the telephone systems in the county.

#### COUNTY BRIDGE AND ROAD WORK

One of the most notable facts concerning Adair County is that all of the bridge and road work is done by the county itself; the bridges are constructed and placed, paid for, and the roads improved by county labor and money. It has been with no little profit to everyone who lives in Adair County to know that officials of the state in bridge and road work have selected this county as the main one that is up-to-date and leading the procession along these lines, and have

sent the officials of several other counties of the state to Greenfield to investigate the methods used here and view the county plant for the manufacture of concrete culverts. To the members of the board of supervisors and to Charles Lehmkuhl, county engineer, also superintendent of the work, much credit should be given for the saving to the county of thousands of dollars. The system has been in operation for six years and during the first five years' operation 390 bridges were constructed. In this time \$111,562 was spent for bridges, but a great part of the money went to citizens of the county for labor given.

#### THE GRANGE

In the early '70s the Patrons of Husbandry had a remarkably successful run in all the northern states of the republic, and especially in Iowa hundreds of granges were formed and almost every township in Adair County had at least one. S. C. Vance of Greenfield, Thomas Ewing of Richland, C. N. Schnellbacher of Grand River were prominent in grange work. Co-operation in buying supplies was undertaken to a limited extent, but the social features were the most important. There were several conditions which combined to destroy the efficiency of the order and which caused the granges to surrender their charters, though one or two continued for a number of years.

In the early '80s a new order, the Farmers' Alliance, took the place of the grange. This was not a secret order, but its object was to consider and discuss in public meetings those things which would make for the best interest of the agricultural community. There were several alliances in this county which did good work in advancing public opinion. The many co-operative insurance companies, creamery associations and mercantile establishments in Iowa sprang from grange and alliance teachings.

When the Knights of Labor were at the zenith of their prosperity about 1890, several lodges were formed in Adair County, but they were never very popular among the farmers and did not long survive the drain for dues exacted by the supreme officers of the order.

The American Protective Association had a flourishing organization in the northeast part of the county about 1894 and built a hall for meetings in the south part of Jefferson Township near Turkey Creek. This order never extended to other parts of the county.

#### BRICK AND TILE INDUSTRY

The early settlers of Adair County were seriously handicapped for building material on account of the lack of stone, and the distance



to haul brick for the foundations and flues of houses. There was limestone along Middle River, but nowhere else in the county was there any stone to be found except a few scattering boulders left by the glacial drift, and these were worn so smooth and round as to be practically useless for any purpose. The first houses were of logs, with stick and mud flues. When native lumber became obtainable the houses were built on blocks of oak or walnut and the flues mostly stove pile, as stoves had then come into use.

About 1868 a couple of small kilns of brick were made in Jackson Township about three miles west of Fontanelle. The whole thing was crude in construction, but enough brick were made to supply material for flues to the houses then being built. A company with H. Grass as the head worked one summer at Fontanelle and burned several kilns of brick and constructed the brick block north of the square, which was the first brick building in the county. The county hired a geological expert to investigate as to the condition of the various soils and their adaptability for use. Some beds of sand were found underlying the surface soil, which was generally a black clay loam of varying depth, but the sand was mostly too fine for cement manufacture, although considerable has been used for plastering and building chimneys. The clay which composes the substance of the soil to a depth of several hundred feet was not workable to any large extent for manufacturing purposes. Pockets of varying extent were found which, under expert workmanship, made fairly good brick and tile. About 1890 J. H. Day manufactured brick for several years southeast of Fontanelle which supplied the local demand for the product. About the same time several kilns of brick were made at Greenfield and brick construction became the rule for business houses. A little later J. W. Darby was extensively engaged in making brick and tile for six or seven years in Greenfield. None of these efforts to make clay products have been financially successful. A large business in brickmaking has been carried on in Bridgewater for several years. More of the brick industry may be found in the geological chapter of this volume.

#### ROADS

In the early days there were few located roads; the trails followed as much as possible along the divides, which considerably increased the distance between places. With the exception of the increased distance, they made good roads with very little work. When compelled to cross streams and sloughs they were bad, except during the



dryest weather. With the advent of the farmer the roads were forced upon section lines, which meant hills and sloughs. Had the early authorities had the good sense and foresight to locate roads as the railroads do, where the ground was naturally adapted to good roads, an immense cost would have been saved and all future generations been benefited. As it is the roads have at large cost been gradually improved and cement culverts gradually taking the place of the log and lumber ones and steel bridges being constructed until the roads of the county are very creditable.

#### COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION

Iowa has always been liberal in its encouragement of agricultural fairs and has given aid to county fairs for more than fifty years. In the early years of Adair County an annual fair was held in the school-houses of Fontanelle and Greenfield, alternately. After the removal of the county seat to Greenfield, land was rented in the east part of town and some buildings and a race track constructed and for several years the fair was held there. Later this was bought and laid off into lots by Martin & McCollum, and no fair was held until 1892. In the summer of that year the project was revived and an association formed of which D. A. Patterson was president; T. M. Neely, vice president; A. E. Teague, secretary; and A. R. Oldham, treasurer, with directors from the different townships according to the number of shares held by the people in them. Between three hundred and four hundred shares at \$10 each were sold and forty-two acres of land northeast of Greenfield purchased, permanent buildings constructed and a good race track laid out. For a number of years very successful fairs were held, with good exhibits of stock and agricultural products, pantry stores and exhibits of school work. The county contains a large number of excellent cattle, hogs and horses and a good representation of these have always been exhibited at the Adair County Fair. For several years the fair had hard luck owing to rainstorms and fell considerably into debt, but in the winter of 1914, 240 additional shares of stock were sold, the floating debt cleared off and the association is in good shape for future action.

#### FARMERS' INSTITUTE

About 1890 some of the progressive farmers of the county formed an association to hold an institute of several days' duration at Green-

field. A very successful session, with President Chamberlain of the State Agricultural College, Henry Wallace and others prominent in agricultural education present, was held. This association continued for several years to hold a successful institute, but farmers found it difficult to get the time from their work and attend in sufficient numbers, and with the feeling among the townspeople that the institute did not belong to them, caused it to be discontinued, although the state offered generous support.

For two or three years since 1910 the people at Adair and Fontanelle have held an annual corn show and institute which has aroused considerable interest in the territory tributary to these towns.

#### AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Previous to the coming of the railroad, the Rock Island on the north and the Burlington on the south, in 1869, there had been very little interest in crop production, the distance from market making the raising of surplus grain a burden rather than an asset. The people lived in, or in close proximity to, the strips of timber along the streams and most of the vast prairie land was unbroken. Land sold from two and one-half dollars to ten dollars per acre. With the coming of the railroad settlement rapidly extended to the prairies, which were found to be more desirable than the timber and rougher land near the streams. The first settlers depended entirely on wild hay and let their cattle range unrestrained, fencing their small cultivated plats with rails. It was the accepted opinion of the early settlers that the cultivated grasses would not grow on the prairie soil and could not survive the rigor of winter freezing. But there are always skeptics, and soon some of the farmers found it necessary to find a substitute for the wild hay and began to experiment with the tame grasses. J. H. Hulbert in Washington Township, L. M. Kilburn in Summerset, and others, found that this was one of the best counties for tame grasses in all the world, just as natural for the cultivated as for the wild grasses. Blue grass, the best of the pasture grasses, came in naturally with civilized settlement until it covered all the land not in cultivated crops; while clover and timothy meadows have practically crowded out the wild grasses, and in some seasons a large surplus of hay has been shipped for use elsewhere. The main crops raised at first were spring wheat, oats and corn, with sufficient potatoes for local use; corn next to grass being the most important crop, largely consumed on the farm and shipped out in the shape of cattle,

hogs, horses, butter and cream. In the last few years winter wheat has become a very important crop, proving the most remunerative for its cost of any crop raised. With the cultivated crops, however, came evil weeds, formerly unknown, which like the last state of man in the parable makes things worse than the first. Dandelions cover the hills with a yellow bloom in the spring and defy all efforts at eradication: the varieties of dock and cocklebur are ever increasing in persistent occupation of the soil; while the native varieties of ragweed, foxtail, wild morning-glory and many others increase the farmer's labors to preserve his crops; and yet the average product per acre is considerably more than fifty years ago, owing to better implements and more intelligent culture. Almost every settler put out a grove of forest trees for a windbreak and a small orchard about his dwellings. David Coffeen in Washington Township, Jacob Bruce of Jefferson, L. C. Elliott of Harrison and J. Bush of Grand River were among the first to have bearing orchards in the county. While many apples, plums, grapes and some peaches have been raised in the county and while it is little trouble for any family to grow more than they can consume of any of these fruits, together with all the small fruits such as strawberries, raspberries, blackberries and currants, the conditions are not the best for tree growing. High winds, lack of sufficient moisture and other conditions unite to dwarf the size, and shorten the life of both orchard and farm trees, except in close proximity to the flowing streams.

In the early days the sloughs, of which there was an abundance, were very wet and such land was accounted almost worthless. Most of these sloughs have been drained, some of the first with ditches which proved a failure, and later with clay tile which has made the slough land the most productive of all. With the coming of the years and better improvements the value of land has advanced until an average of one hundred dollars an acre is a very conservative estimate.

#### EARLY TIMES IN FONTANELLE

Every person in the West understands the danger of being overtaken by snow storms in thinly settled country, where the ordinary landmarks of the more thickly settled regions, houses, barns, fences, groves and cultivated lands, are found only at long intervals.

There have been several such cases attended with fatal results in Adair County, but the most interesting case of the kind, although not attended with serious consequences, occurred in the Town of Fontanelle in the winter of 1850.

The town in question at the time referred to was very thinly settled, the number of houses perhaps not exceeding twenty, and placed at long distances from each other.

The block north of the present public square is block 16, and near its southeast corner stood the public house kept by J. C. Gibbs, and in the same block a few feet west of Mr. Gibbs' residence was the dwelling of Cal Ballard. Near the northwest corner of block 20, which lies immediately west of the square, was a store originally built by J. K. Valentine, but at the time referred to was used by Ballard as a storeroom. The public square at that time was treeless and unenclosed and a liberty pole stood in its center.

On the site of the present residence (Frank Sears, 1915) of E. H. Fuller (this was written in 1873), D. Mulford Valentine, now chief justice of Kansas, lived, and the lots being then unfenced, he had his stable near the spot where Isaac Cade's stable afterwards stood.

Colonel Nichols, at that time, lived in a residence afterward occupied by Mr. Drake about one-quarter of a mile from Ballard's store. Gibbs' Hotel was about eighty rods from the store.

On the afternoon of a cold winter day A. B. Smith, now of Winterset; James Minert of Eureka Township; Joe Clary, now in Washington Territory; J. S. Ellis, Marion Ammon and Colonel Nichols and several others dropped into Ballard's store and whiled the afternoon away in conversation, jokes and story telling. In the middle of the afternoon the breeze from the northeast which had been blowing all day grew into a heavy storm accompanied by a heavy snow. The wind and snow had become so dense as to darken the air, and as no business could be done Ballard proceeded to close his store. The mud and snow beating with great force on his front door, which faced the east, made it necessary for the company to retire through the back door at the west end of the building. The company, including Mr. Ballard, left the building together and all but Nichols proceeded in the direction of Gibb's Hotel, where most of them boarded.

Having to face the cutting wind and the blinding snow that prevented one seeing an object even at a distance of a few feet, they had proceeded but a few steps when they became separated and realized that they were lost and helpless. This conviction, to which was added the suffering of several of them who lost their hats or scarfs which had been carried away by the wind, induced a fright which took away their presence of mind. They at once began calling to each other for help and were finally rallied around the liberty pole in the center of



the public square by one who happened to reach it first. When once congregated here various plans were suggested for reaching Mr. Gibbs', which they knew to be distant not more than fifty yards, among others the plan of separating short distances within sight of each other and swinging around the pole; but the panic they had already experienced prevented this or any other plan from being adopted.

In the meantime Joe Clary and two or three others had succeeded in retracing their steps to Ballard's door and breaking in a window entered the building, where they remained all night, suffering considerably with the cold.

A. B. Smith, however, retained his presence of mind, and being able to keep the location of the various houses, took charge of the party. He first took Ballard to his residence a few yards from the pole. Ballard was so bewildered that when he reached his home he failed to recognize it and was only convinced when Smith, opening the door, pushed him into the house. Smith then taking charge of Colonel Nichols, whose house was a fourth of a mile distant, safely piloted him home.

On his return from this duty he came across D. M. Valentine. On the approach of evening this gentleman had left his house to go to his stable, which situation has been described. In going the distance of eighty rods he had lost his direction and could not find his stable or regain his house and he had wandered off in the face of the storm about a half-mile from his residence and would probably have perished but for the timely assistance of Mr. Smith, who conducted him home. After all the party were safely housed except Clary and his companions, who had found their way back to the store, Mr. Smith hunted them up, but they were fearful of entrusting themselves to his guidance, preferring to remain where they were for the night.

#### WILD GAME

The rich rolling lands of Western Iowa, less than three-quarters of a century ago, supported immense herds of buffalo, deer and elk. The first of these to disappear was the buffalo, for within the recollection of the earliest settlers none of these ruminants were found in Adair County when they came here.

It is generally believed that the last wapiti, or elk, was killed in Adair County by John Loucks in the winter of 1856. The facts as given by John B. Wilson are as follows: The elk was discovered by



Mr. Louck in Mr. Wilson's cornfield. There had been a heavy fall of snow which had become coated with a heavy crust. Pursuit was made by Messrs. Wilson, Loucks and P. Glunt and after an exciting chase of two hours, during which time much powder was burned and the elk lost much blood by the snow crust lacerating his legs, the game was finally brought down by Mr. Loucks, which went far towards establishing his reputation as a marksman, from the fact that he never used the hind sights and shut both eyes when he pulled the trigger. The elk was very poor and exceedingly tough.

#### PRIVATIONS

The privations to which the early settlers of our county were subjected to and the dangers which they encountered are but faintly realized by us who enjoy the benefits of their labors and sufferings. One of the early settlers of Adair County was John Cears. Of course every old settler in the county knew Mr. Cears and every person in the vicinity of Fontanelle, which was his trading point, and near which was his home for many years. Mr. Cears came to Adair County at a very early date and settled in Jackson Township. As many of the old settlers will remember, the winter of 1856-57 was one of uncommon severity, with heavy falls of snow. At this time Mr. Cears was keeping a stage station upon the stage road running from Des Moines to Council Bluffs by Winterset, Greenfield, Summerset and Lewis. In the latter part of December it became necessary for him to go to David Thompson's for the purpose of obtaining a supply of meat. Thompson lived two miles east of Pearson's mill, which was situated four miles north of Stuart. Having obtained his supplies, he left Mr. Thompson early on the morning of Tuesday, December 20th. At the time he started it was snowing heavily and there was a stiff breeze from the southwest. Thompson remonstrated with Cears for starting in such a storm, but he was anxious to reach home, as he had left his three young children in charge of strangers. Besides, it was his intention to stop at Jacob Bruce's on Middle River, which was twelve or fourteen miles distant. In going from Thompson's to Bruce's he would have the wind directly in his face. The storm increased in fury after Mr. Cears started and he was unable to see 200 yards on account of the heavy fall and drifting of the snow. The road even in summer was not very well marked and was entirely obliterated by the snow in a very short time. The ordinary landmarks could not be seen for the storm and the only guide left for Mr. Cears

was the course of the wind, which was blowing from the southwest. Before reaching Mr. Bruce's the wind changed to the northwest and imperceptibly the course of Mr. Cears was changed also. After the lapse of a few hours Mr. Cears knew he was lost and realized fully the danger of his position, but his anxiety for himself was much less than that for his little children at home. He had reason to believe that, like persons lost in the snow, he sometimes crossed his own track, but from the fact that he continued to face the storm he finally found himself so far from his starting point that his course was quite direct. The storm raged with fury and without cessation. Day and night from Tuesday morning until Friday noon following and during the entire time there was no landmark visible by day nor stars at night to reveal to him his course or position. During the daytime he continued to travel as well as he could, but the weakness of his horse, his own fatigue, as well as the excessive darkness, rendered traveling impossible. When he left Thompson's he had one bushel of corn for his horses. Of course this small amount was soon consumed, and as neither browsing or dry grass could be had, the horses soon showed signs of weakness. After the corn was gone the horses ate the entire sides of the wagon made of yellow poplar. During this entire time Mr. Cears had no food whatever. He had fortunately supplied himself with a pint of whiskey before leaving Mr. Thompson's, which was his only support during this time. Mr. Cears was for many years a stage driver and a hard drinker, but he said this was the only time in his life when whiskey proved of any benefit to him whatever, and from that day until his death never drank a drop of intoxicating liquor. Mr. Cears knew that his only hope lay in keeping his horses alive, and to do this they must be exercised. Each horse had a blanket. During most of the nights Mr. Cears kept his horses moving, leading them to and fro. While not engaged in this occupation he sat wrapped in his only protection from the storm, his buffalo robe, and listened to the wolves howling upon all sides of him. At such times, although it was "blue" cold, yet the anxiety for his children would often induce a profuse perspiration. As the snow was at times accompanied by rain, before long the wheels of the wagon became a solid mass of ice, not a single spoke being visible, and long icicles hung from the horses' bellies and from the wagon. As the horses became weaker and weaker they often stumbled and fell while crossing the gullies which could not be seen and avoided on account of being filled with snow. From the first time that Mr. Cears discovered that he was misled by the wind and lost he had no notion as to

where he was, but felt that his only safety was in moving on. As he afterward discovered, he had changed his course and had traveled northwest parallel with Middle River, but never so near it as to see the timber on account of the snow. As he had matches with him, he could have made himself comfortable had he reached the timber, but where he was on the divide he was not able even to light a pipe. At about 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon the storm had ceased to rage and the sun came out. Mr. Cears saw at some distance a high hill crowned with a single tree. Hitching the one horse to the wagon, he mounted the other and rode to this point. From here he saw a shanghai fence, which was a very certain indication that a house was not far distant. Going back for the other horse, he left his wagon and made his way to the enclosure. Here he found a turf house, well known at that time as Gopher Station. It was one of the stage stations on the line from Des Moines to Council Bluffs and was kept by a Quaker named Betts. It was situated on Bear Grove, near the headwaters of Middle River, about twelve miles north of Adair County. Mr. Betts brought the wagon to the station. Of course, after such privations both Mr. Cears and his horses were prostrated. Mr. Cears had an awful appetite, but could retain no food upon his stomach for some time. One of his horses recovered, but the other died within a few days after reaching the station. Mr. Cears froze several of his fingers and both of his heels. On Monday morning following, with a stage horse kindly lent to him by Mr. Betts. and his stronger horse, he took the mail route to Anita and reached home Tuesday afternoon. On Wednesday he returned to Gopher Station, to return the borrowed horse, expecting to return on the one he left, but in the meantime the horse had died. On Thursday Mr. Cears returned home on foot, coming by way of Jacob Johnson's near Casey and taking dinner at Mr. Ray's, who lived where Mr. Westman later lived. No one but a person of imperturbability, bravery and indomitable resolution would have escaped from such peril with his life.

#### PANTHER

In the spring of 1864 the eastern part of Adair County was much excited by the inroad of a wild animal whose presence was first made known by its depredations upon domestic animals of the farmers of Harrison and Jefferson townships. It first made its appearance upon Middle River in Harrison Township. The groves bordering the river were at that time much denser than now, and afforded it

an excellent shelter and place of retreat from whence it sallied in search of something to devour. The report of its depredations extended to the settlers upon the river, creating considerable uneasiness. Before long the animal removed its quarters to Jefferson Township and at once made its presence known by the destruction of colts, calves, sheep and hogs. Not long after its arrival it was seen and reported to be of a red color and as large as a small mule. The animal was again seen by some women who were gathering some gooseberries. It was lying stretched upon the dead limb of a tree about twenty feet from the ground. The person who first discovered it gave the alarm and the party retreated. She described him as larger than the largest dog she had ever seen. Previous to this time, in addition to his numerous attacks on domestic animals, he had made the settlers aware of his presence by cries at night, which, except that they were louder, resembled the cries of a cat. Doubtless it belonged to the same family of animals. A hunting party at once sallied forth in search of the animal, accompanied by the young lady who had seen him, but without success. Traces of him were evident in the remains of ten shoats which were discovered partly devoured. Besides these another gentleman lost about forty pigs, some of them large enough to weigh 100 pounds. The excitement aroused by the presence of such a dangerous neighbor having become universal, a grand hunt was organized to rid the country of his presence. All the men, arms and dogs were in requisition. After beating the bush for a considerable time the animal soon started from his lair, but breaking through the lines he reached the dense timber and escaped. As he passed through the lines he was plainly seen, but was enabled to escape unhurt. After this he was seen no more, nor, we believe, heard from, but the fear that he might be still lurking in the timber was for a long time the cause of alarm and annoyance and deprived the good people of Middle River country of many a gooseberry pie.

The animal was probably what is known as the American panther. It is rarely found, and especially in the parts of the country so sparsely wooded as Adair County.

#### REMINISCENCES OF S. W. PRYOR

On the 1st day of August, 1856, I arrived at a small settlement in the eastern part of Adair County, one among the numerous paper towns in Western Iowa at that time. This was the summer preceding the winter still remembered by the old settlers as the hard winter of



1856-57. The seasons had been and were still very dry; crops of all kinds were very light, prairie grass was exceedingly light, and still it was about all the chance a newcomer had out of which to make feed to winter his stock. The first thing for a man of a family to do was to get a house to live in. Having done this I thought, as land seemed to be on the rise, I would secure a piece of land on which to make a home. Although I had before leaving Missouri, where I had lived fourteen years, bought of different parties military land warrants amounting in all to 420 acres, intending to locate them on the public domain in Iowa, unfortunately for me, when I arrived here the land offices were closed with little or no hopes of being opened soon, thus I was forced to pay my money for land instead of keeping it for other uses. By the time I had selected and purchased what land I wanted haymaking was well advanced. With scythe and pitchfork I commenced making hay for between thirty-five and forty head of stock, three head of which were only horses. Winter setting in rather early, found me still unprepared in the way for shelter for my stock, and on the very first day of December the stormy weather began. My cattle were only partially sheltered from the storm by my hayrick and they began to freeze to death. The weather continued exceedingly cold and stormy all winter. On the coming of grass in the spring I had only two head of cattle living out of about thirty-six, the others dying mostly for the want of shelter. That spring corn sold for \$1.50 per bushel and during the summer following flour for \$7.50 per hundred. Some time during the summer, I think it was June, I wanted to see a man living in the southwestern part of the county and knowing that he lived somewhere near Nevin, a small colony from New England, accordingly one morning I struck out on foot for that village. I knew I could get there some time on foot and thought best not to start on horseback, knowing that the streams were bad to cross with a horse, and I had also found it to be very hard to find grain to feed an animal. I had no guide but a pocket compass which I used to keep myself in the proper bearing when no house or grove could be seen, which would answer the same purpose, which was nearly all the time, however. After I had gone some ten or twelve miles I could see Greenfield, or a barn and one house perhaps all told, which was a very good guide, as I knew that Nevin lay directly south from that town at a distance of about eleven miles. Late in the evening, after wading several streams, and traveling without a road, sometimes through grass and weeds higher than my



head, hungry and tired, I reached the colony where I remained until the next day.

I could relate similar incidents enough to fill a volume, but I shall relate but one more. In the latter part of June, 1858, I was called upon to survey a road from Schweer's mill, now Hebron, in Grand River Township, north to the line between Adair and Guthrie counties. I ran the road through by the second evening without any unusual occurrence. We stopped with a widow just across the line in the edge of Guthrie County, in quite a small log cabin, and I thought that I never heard it thunder harder or rain more than it did that night. In the morning, after waiting for the water to run down, for some of the sloughs would swim a horse, we started homeward, but in a few miles we came to North River, which had overflowed its banks and spread from hill to hill. Seeing that we could not possibly cross there, a man living near by informed us that a man some miles below owned a canoe. So we started with very little hope of getting across to hunt the man with the canoe. Sure enough, when we got there the canoe was gone. We got our dinner and after further consultation I proposed to construct a raft that I thought we could cross on if we could find a dead tree of sufficient size and very dry and light, which would float well. We soon found a tree which suited us and after cutting it down, cut off four lengths and placing them together side by side, fastened them together by pinning four pieces of a sapling, cut and split, laying flat side down upon the logs, holding them securely together. We all took hold, drew it into the water until it would float, then with one of the men at a time with a pole about ten feet long I began ferrying our company across, until all were carried over but the teamster, who was to follow as soon as the stream became fordable. This sketch illustrates but a part of my experiences for the first few years in Adair County.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT IN NORTH PART OF ADAIR COUNTY

It is claimed and probably correct that William Alcorn and John Gilson were the first settlers in the north part of the county, Alcorn making a claim and building a house on section 27 and Gilson making a claim and putting up a house on section 35, situated in what is now known as Jefferson Township. About the same time or soon thereafter Benjamin Alcorn claimed and built a cabin on section 33, same township. William Alcorn remained upon his claim for several years, while Gilson, who had a child die, became discouraged and sold

out to Daniel Vancil. At the time that Alcorn and Gaston settled on Middle River in Adair County, their nearest neighbors were twenty-five miles distant. We give the names of those settlers in the township previous to 1855 in their order: William Alcorn, John Gilson, Benjamin Alcorn, — Crow, John Phebus, — Pettus, — Collins, William Hollingsworth, George M. Holaday, Mahundra Hollingsworth, Samuel Minert and Jacob Bruce.

The pioneers as a class of people were generous and accommodating, although deprived of many of the privileges and blessings of an older settled country, yet their hearts were warm and sympathetic, which was made manifest in sickness or in trouble. They also kept the latch string hanging out to the wayfarer, that he might find shelter and food. It was a custom of the early settlers when one went to the nearest trading point to send word the day before to his neighbors so that they might send for what they needed. The same in milling. One would do the milling for several. At that day there was no class distinction—all were on the same level. None rich, but all poor. Though living twenty miles away they were our friends and neighbors. Intemperance, profanity and Sabbath breaking was the exception. The young men of that day were not walking arsenals, with their pockets loaded down with revolvers, slung shots and brass knuckles as at the present time, but they grew to be sturdy, industrious, self-reliant young men, the pride of their parents, esteemed by their neighbors and respected by all who came to know them.

While it may be said truthfully that the pioneers of Adair County were a generous and hospitable people, it cannot be said that they always made the best of their straitened circumstances in the matter of cleanliness, as the following incidents will substantiate. Two young attorneys stopping with mine host of the — House, after retiring for the night, heard the hostess making inquiry of her daughters, who were in the kitchen, if they had “turned those chickens,” which gave those young disciples of Blackstone visions of nice baked chicken for breakfast, which thought was transporting them to the land of dreams when their repose was disturbed by the mother making a loud call and the inquiry the second time, which elicited an answer in the negative. They were then told to balance those chickens with that part which is last getting in over the fence, farthest from the flour in the barrel. The announcement caused a cessation of saliva in the mouths of the young attorneys, which could be only started again by the frequent use of a pint flask. On another occasion at the same place the travelers were awakened by the landlady

pulling the children out of the trundle bed to get the sheet to do service as a table cloth. And to show their down East friends how biscuits were manufactured in the West they carried a biscuit home, and the tenacity with which it hung together was due to the fact that a yellow dog had lost considerable of his hair whilst keeping watch over the flour barrel and meal box. The reader must remember that this was before the days of patent flour and meal chests and when the family occupied one room of the house and dogs, cats and chickens the other.

We will relate one or two incidents which will show the spirit of accommodation that pervaded the hearts of the early settlers. On a certain time when it was very disagreeable in traveling, when houses were few and far between, and mine host had stowed away to the best advantage all the humanity that beds and bedding would admit, the landlord was heard to exclaim: "No room for another unless he bunk with wife and me." Hardly had the words been uttered when "Halloa!" was heard and a horseman claimed shelter and food. The conditions were made known and accepted. The belated traveler was fed and his clothes dried and then told to turn in, the host telling his wife to lay over next to the wall and telling the traveler to pile in, "but I swear you shan't sleep in the middle."

On another occasion, to show that where there is a will a way can be found to do good to others, in a room less than fourteen feet square sleeping room was had, although a little crowded, for ten full grown men, two women and three children, by the good wife putting the men, chairs and table outside, then spreading bedding on the floor from wall to door; the men being admitted one at a time, were stowed away spoon fashion, which necessitated all turning at once when they wished to change positions, which caused considerable merriment which lasted well into the morning hours.

As there were many little incidents happening to the early settlers which were of considerable moment to them, and of which it is interesting for them in conversation to recall, it would be interesting to relate them if space would permit. However, I will close by saying that the happiest hours of my life were spent as a pioneer in Adair County.

#### A BAD WINTER

The following quotation of one of the newspapers in regard to the severe winter of 1880, published at the time:

"The storm was the beginning of one of the longest and coldest winters on record. It began snowing October 14th, and for three days the blizzard raged, blockading the railroads and highways everywhere. The county was quite sparsely settled in this part of Iowa then. The fine big barns and cattle sheds now so common were a rarity. As a consequence the storm coming so early caught everyone unprepared. Cattle and other stock perished by the thousands and many travelers caught unawares lost their lives. There was no Indian summer that year. The blizzard of October was followed by more snow and cold and there was almost no let up until April. Many of the low, hay-thatched barns of that period were completely covered with snowdrifts and it became necessary to cut holes through the slough grass roofs to get feed and water to the animals within. At other places tunnels were dug through the drifts to the doors leading to the stables.

"Fuel was scarce and corn and weeds were often burned in lieu of coal. Corn husking and plowing was postponed till spring, when it was common to see farmers planting corn in one field and others husking in an adjoining field."

#### CHAUTAUQUA

During the spring of 1908 the Redpath Chautauqua men induced the business men of Greenfield to lend assistance to inaugurate a chautauqua to be held at this place in August of that year. This was the first movement in this direction ever taken in Greenfield. It has never been materialized, however, until 1911, when, and each year since, the Redpath-Vawter Company has conducted successful sessions at which some of the best talent in the country has contributed. In 1913 and 1914 Fontanelle has also had successful chautauqua sessions.

#### MILLS

The first houses in the county were built of logs, but early a saw-mill was built on Middle River near what is now Port Union and one on the Nodaway four or five miles west of Fontanelle, which worked up some native lumber, mostly oak or maple, with some basswood, elm cut along the streams. The yielding nature of the soil along the stream banks and the immense volume of flood water causing the streams to overflow and spread over the bottoms in every big rain, made it impossible to construct dams of any permanency, so



none of the mills were able to continue in business, although native lumber was supplied for a considerable number of buildings, the first courthouse and jail at Fontanelle being built almost entirely of native lumber. Later portable sawmills made some lumber, but the pine shipped in from abroad was preferred to the hard wood of the forests and the demand for native lumber ceased.

In the days before the railroad the people had to haul their wheat for flour to Lewis, Cass County; Mount Etna, Adams County; to Cromwell or Creston, Union County; or to Pearson's, Guthrie County, which meant a drive of from twenty to thirty-five miles for almost all of the farmers of the county.

Upon promise of a bonus of \$1,000 a man built a mill for grinding grain near where the depot now stands, the power to have been supplied by four huge wings after the style of the Holland mills, but the wind was too uncertain and too erratic to accomplish anything except to occasionally grind a little cornmeal. A mill was built at Port Union, which did some business for a short time.

In 1881 Jacob Bahlman and Wendel Mathes, farmers living not far from Fontanelle, built a mill at that place, which cost about seven thousand dollars, which has been operated continuously since, doing good work. This is now owned and operated by J. F. Dory. Bahlman was postmaster at Fontanelle during the first Cleveland administration. He afterwards emigrated to Argentina, where it is reported he died some years since. Mathes has been living in retirement in Fontanelle for some years and owns a large farm in Jackson Township.

A grist mill was built at Greenfield several years ago, but soon failed, then sold and torn down.

A flour mill was built on Middle River, a mile east of Casey, near the county line, which did business for several years, but the uncertainty of water power compelled a shut-down of the plant.

#### COAL MINING

At several different times efforts have been made to find coal in different locations in Adair County. A number of prospect holes have been dug near Fontanelle, the deepest going down 400 feet from the surface without finding any workable vein. Drilling was carried on to between two hundred and three hundred feet in Jackson Township without success. The supervisors had offered a bounty of \$300 for fifty bushels of coal mined in Adair County and delivered



at Greenfield. L. R. Cairns sunk a shaft in 1892 in Eureka Township six miles south of Adair Town and at a depth of 240 feet found a three-foot vein of good quality coal. He claimed to have sunk a prospect hole forty feet deeper and found a vein four feet thick, but this was never developed. From the state mine inspector's report there were mined 2,000 tons in 1893. The report of the output for succeeding years is not available, but there was an increase for several years. However, the depth of the mine and the distance from rail transportation prevented it from becoming a profitable business and accordingly mining operations were suspended indefinitely.

#### STATISTICS OF POPULATION

The following statistics show that the county as a whole has had a steady growth until the year 1900, at which time the number of people began to decrease and has continued to do so every year since.

The Town of Adair had 463 inhabitants in 1885; in 1890 it had 722; in 1895, 853; in 1900, 879; in 1905, 961; in 1910, 900.

Bridgewater had 365 inhabitants in 1910.

Fontanelle had 923 inhabitants in 1885; in 1890, 830; in 1895, 859; in 1900, 853; in 1905, 847; in 1910, 789.

Greenfield, in 1885, had 1,100 inhabitants; in 1890, 1,048; in 1895, 1,244; in 1900, 1,300; in 1905, 1,445; in 1910, 1,379.

The population of the county as a whole for different years has been: In 1854, 150; in 1856, 663; in 1860, 984; in 1863, 900; in 1865, 1,097; in 1867, 1,594; in 1870, 3,982; in 1875, 7,045; in 1880, 11,667; in 1885, 14,102; in 1890, 14,534; in 1895, 15,504; in 1900, 16,192; in 1905, 15,110; in 1910, 14,420.

The present population of Adair County (1915) is 14,069. The following is the 1915 population of the townships and towns: Adair (town), 1,007; Bridgewater (town), 362; Bridgewater, 29; Casey (town), 107; Eureka, 618; Fontanelle (town), 860; Grand River, 585; Greenfield (town), 1,615; Greenfield, 95; Grove, 608; Harrison, 667; Jackson, 597; Jefferson, 622; Lee, 467; Lincoln, 654; Orient (town), 450; Orient, 595; Prussia, 635; Richland, 604; Summerset, 554; Summit, 550; Union, 545; Walnut, 653; Washington, 585.

#### PRESIDENTIAL VOTE

In 1864 Abraham Lincoln received 119 votes in the county and George B. McClellan 47.

In 1872 U. S. Grant received 757 votes and Horace Greeley 211.

In 1876 Hayes got 1,334 and Tilden 593 in the county.

In 1880 J. A. Garfield received 1,606, W. S. Hancock 516, and James B. Weaver, populist, 519.

In 1884 Blaine received 1,814 votes and Cleveland 1,318.

In 1888 Benjamin Harrison received 1,883 votes, Cleveland got 1,178, and the populist ticket received 108.

In 1892 Harrison received 1,836, Cleveland 1,264.

In 1896 William McKinley received 2,127 votes and William J. Bryan received 1,530.

In 1900 McKinley received 2,327 and Bryan 1,618.

In 1904 Theodore Roosevelt received 2,303 and Alton B. Parker got 895 votes.

In 1908 William H. Taft received 2,015 votes; William J. Bryan 1,323.

In 1912 William H. Taft received 1,248 votes; Theodore Roosevelt, progressive, received 890; and Woodrow Wilson, 1,195.

#### THE ADAIR COUNTY MUTUAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

In the last part of the year 1887 a few of the farmers interested in mutual insurance met at Greenfield and organized a county association for the purpose of mutual assistance in case of loss by fire or lightning, and in March, 1888, the association first commenced business with an insurable capital of about sixty thousand dollars, which early in the year was increased to about one hundred thousand dollars. The first officers elected by the association were: L. M. Kilburn, president; E. C. Crawford, vice president; T. C. Heacock, D. J. Eater, E. C. Duncan, directors. The board elected J. E. Brooks as secretary and O. A. Tuttle as treasurer. Some years later G. G. Rechtenbaugh of Jackson Township became vice president in place of E. C. Crawford and upon his decease T. C. Heacock was elected to the place which he held until his removal to Kansas in the early years of 1900. The directors have so far enjoyed the confidence of the membership of the association that vacancies have been made only by death or removal from the county in the twenty-seven years of active business. The president, secretary and treasurer have occupied these positions since the beginning. Other directors at present (1915) are: C. J. Eater, vice president; J. G. Hendry, Fred Rohner and Loren Sulgrove. The company was incorporated in the year 1888 and reincorporated in

1909. It has never had a "boom," but has maintained a steady, average growth of around one hundred thousand dollars a year in amount of its risks, until it now has over three million dollars in risks confined to Adair and adjoining counties. It has paid over sixty thousand dollars in over six hundred different losses and has effected a saving of as much more to its patrons. It is distinctly one of the live institutions of Adair County.

#### AN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD STATION

In the early days of settlement of Adair County, between 1850 and 1861, old John Brown had a line of "underground railroad" from Missouri to Canada, passing through this county, one station being kept by Azariah Root in the grove two miles west of Fontanelle. Abner Root, son of Azariah, a young man, afterwards a soldier in the War of the Rebellion, and later sheriff of Adair County, once related the following incident of that eventful time which shows the high courage, self-sacrifice and devotion to a high ideal in some of the men of those days:

"A considerable part of the early settlers were pro-slavery in sentiment and the utmost secrecy had to be observed in passing fugitive slaves from station to station along the line through Southern Iowa. On one cold mid-winter evening, when there was just enough snow on the ground to make good sledding, John Brown called at the door of my father's house with seven negroes. He said, 'Take these people to ——'s at Winterset before light tomorrow morning.' With these words he quickly drove away. While father was hitching up the sled my mother took the cold and hungry negroes into the kitchen and gave them some hot food and coffee. The sled once ready the negroes were deposited in the bottom in a prone position and then covered with heavy blankets, for fear some one would see them while en route to our destination. In this manner we drove the thirty-six snow-covered miles to Winterset and deposited our human freight at the next station.

"At another time I took a load to Johnnie Pearson's, who was an old Quaker with a grist mill several miles beyond what is now Stuart in Guthrie County and whose house was another station on the route. When I reached the mill the miller came to the wagon to unload, but I had the negroes covered and said that the grist was not for the mill but for Pearson alone."

If heroes ever lived, the man, who, living in a hostile neighborhood, defying a vicious law which, upon discovery, would subject him

to a heavy fine and imprisonment, without hope of reward, would take long drives of thirty or forty miles on a lonely trail, on winter nights, to help his fellows from slavery to freedom, deserves to be called a hero; and of such material the pioneers were made.

#### BORDER RUFFIANS

In the spring of 1864 occurred the murder of a soldier who was home on a furlough in Adams County. It was the result of a neighborhood feud of long standing, intensified by the war spirit of the times. The murderer was arrested, claiming that the act was in self defense and justifiable, and was brought to the Adair County jail at Fontanelle to be kept until the trial. As usual in such cases, the clan to which the dead man belonged determined, right or wrong, to avenge their comrade's death, without waiting for the law to determine the right of the matter. They came across country on horseback to the jail at Fontanelle and against the earnest protest of John Shreves, the sheriff, who was powerless to resist the mob, they battered down the door to the cell, took the prisoner some distance out of town, and hanged him to a tree, also riddling his body with bullets. Efforts were made to bring the ruffians to justice, but so terrorized were the people that no testimony could be secured against them.

#### MARRIAGES

The first marriage license issued in Adair County was dated May 6, 1854, and was issued to William Stinson and Elizabeth F. Crow. The ceremony was performed on the next day, probably by Judge Holaday, although the records contain no record of the same. The second license was issued June 9, 1855 to David McClure and Rheimama Thompson, who were married the following day. Licenses during the whole of the year 1855 were issued to the following couples: D. M. Valentine and Martha Root; Samuel Thompson and Sarah Garner; Manoah S. Sullivan and Sarah A. Standley; Isaac J. Farlow and Martha E. Bringham. There were only six marriages in the county during 1856 and they were as follows: Natheldron Thomis and Rebecca Tidd; John Murphy and Amelia J. Friend; William Torrents and Ellen Hodson; Joseph W. Betts and Polly C. Thompson; John Johnston and Rebecca Davis; Sion Murphy and Polly A. Roberts. In 1857 the following couples received licenses in the county: John Tomkins and Nancy A. Kerby; Joseph L. Ellis and



Theresa M. Trask; Homer Penfield and Martha Campbell; Philip Augustine and Sarah E. Wilson; J. K. Valentine and Ellen Root; J. R. Pierce and Ruth Love; Redington J. Shields and Mary J. Aldridge; W. W. Starr and Elizabeth Aldridge. Ten marriage licenses were issued during the year 1858 of which the following is a list: Eri W. Chapman and Maria T. Richardson; James Minert and Nancy J. McClure; Jonathan Glossup and Cynthia Love; William Hiatt and Pamela Johnson; G. W. Neal and Annie D. Zinman; T. M. Moore and Francis Parr; Leander Garrett and Emily J. Keen; S. W. Armstrong and Celia Brainard; Sylvester Bennett and Diadema Lee; Henry Murphy and Susan Lucas.

#### TOWN PLATS

The following records from the plat book of Adair County give the dates of the platting of the different towns and additions in the county. Some of these towns were what is known as paper towns, having existed on paper only.

Summerset, now Fontanelle, was laid out during the month of May, 1855, and the plat recorded upon the 30th of the same month. This belonged to the county.

Greenfield, the present county seat, was filed for record upon September 30, 1856, by Milton C. Munger.

Manchester was filed for record December 19, 1855, by Albert W. Mathews.

Nevins was filed for record August 17, 1857, by Roswell W. Turner and Richard B. Smith, both from Boston, Mass.

Rutt's Addition to Fontanelle was filed December 19, 1857, by Abram Rutt.

Arnold's Addition to Fontanelle was filed August 20, 1857, by Douglas F. Arnold of Madison County.

Ballard's Addition to Fontanelle was filed by Cal Ballard on May 14, 1860.

Casey was filed for record October 20, 1868, by A. G. Weeks and R. H. Marshall.

Union Addition to Stuart was filed by Henry Royce, B. F. Allen and Charles Stuart on December 29, 1870.

Adair was filed August 20, 1872, by George C. Tallman, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Waggener & Morgan's Addition to Greenfield was filed May 20, 1875, by Judson Morgan and J. S. Waggener.



Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company's Addition to the Town of Adair was filed October 28, 1873.

Second Union Addition to Stuart was filed August 3, 1874, by Charles Stuart, B. F. Allen and H. F. Royce.

Patton's Addition to Adair was filed February 23, 1876, by J. M. Patton.

Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company's Addition to Adair was filed August 24, 1876.

Patton's Second Addition to Adair was filed October 18, 1877.

Southwest Addition to the Town of Greenfield was filed May 6, 1880, by B. M. McArthur, W. M. Rodgers and D. W. Church.

Heaton's Addition to Greenfield was filed October 30, 1880, by D. Heaton.

Myers' Addition to Greenfield was filed by E. V. Myers on June 20, 1881.

John Don Carlos' Addition to Greenfield was filed August 2, 1881, by John Don Carlos and O. G. Pratt.

Hunt's Addition to Greenfield was filed January 11, 1882, by C. B. Hunt.

Orient was filed for record March 12, 1879, by Charles E. Perkins.

Colby's Addition to Orient was filed October 21, 1880, by J. N. Colby.

Henderson's Addition to Greenfield was filed April 10, 1882, by Oliver S. Henderson, of Henry County, Ill.

Taylor's Addition to Greenfield was filed May 20, 1882, by Henry Taylor.

Manning's Addition to Greenfield was filed October 31, 1882, by Edwin Manning, of Van Buren County, Ia.

Clark's Addition to Adair was filed March 30, 1883, by Thomas M. Clark.

The original plat of Bridgewater was filed October 13, 1885, on land owned by C. E. Perkins. The first addition to this town was filed on May 7, 1889; the second on April 29, 1890, and the third on March 16, 1893.

Walsh's Addition to the Town of Adair was filed July 8, 1913. Patten's Fourth Addition to the town was filed March 3, 1890. Eby's Addition was filed September 7, 1896. Patten's Third Addition to Adair was filed May 10, 1884.

The plat of the now defunct Town of Carbondale was filed October 12, 1892, by William S. and Caroline Chenoweth. It was located

on the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 33, township 77, Range 33.

Hetherington's plat of subdivision of out-lot 9 to Fontanelle was filed August 27, 1908.

Sprague's Addition to Orient was filed April 19, 1897, by E. H. and Martha A. Sprague.

Brown's Addition to Orient was filed August 9, 1901, by L. D. and Rebecca B. Brown.

Miars' Addition to Orient was filed June 19, 1902, by Isaac and Mary E. Miars.

Wiley's First Addition to Orient was filed April 27, 1900, and Wiley's Second Addition was filed April 15, 1910.

Martin & McCollum's First Addition to Greenfield was filed August 11, 1893; Martin & McCollum's Second Addition was filed April 14, 1894; Martin & McCollum's Third Addition was filed April 4, 1895. Littleton's Addition to Greenfield was filed August 23, 1897. Littleton's Second Addition was filed November 9, 1899.

The plat of a town to be named Lieth City was filed July 22, 1902, by Charles L. and Mary Waltz, John D. and Hannah S. Showers. This was located in township 74 north, range 30 west, between sections 20 and 21.

#### THE SILENT CITY

By Myrtle Rivenburgh

While in the employ of the Greenfield Transcript several months ago I became interested in a special way in the Greenfield Cemetery. One day as I walked among the graves on a visit to the cemetery and read the inscriptions on the stones, they brought many questions to my mind which bore no answer, also expressed a new and curious meaning. I spelled out the names of some of the boys and girls who had once attended school and skipped along these streets together. Then there were others who had walked those paths with me in former days without the slightest thought that they would so soon be sleeping with the rest. As I beheld the city of the dead on South Hill and the city of the living on North Hill, I wondered which of the two had the largest population.

Upon investigating the matter I found that there were over twice as many graves on South Hill as persons residing in the Town of Greenfield, on North Hill.

From the time of the first settlers until April 6, 1877, the citizens had used as a burial ground, with the permission of A. P. Littleton, a space of land south of where the county bridge yard now stands. During the intervening years, January 22, 1871, the county supervisors had purchased forty acres of Mrs. Amy McWhinney, the land lying southeast of town, to be used as a county poor farm. However, the supervisors decided later to buy northeast of town for this purpose. They then sold thirty-five acres of the former tract to W. B. Martin, April 8, 1885, for \$2,450, reserving five acres, the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 18-75-31, which was sold by warranty deed on April 6, 1877, to the Greenfield Township trustees for the sum of \$85, the small tract to be used as a cemetery.

Of the bodies moved from the former burial ground were those of Isaac Myers (father), Mrs. Mary Vance (sister), Mrs. Valina Myers (sister-in-law), Prentice Myers (nephew), Ida Littleton (niece of Joe, Ham and James Myers of this place), Doctor Edgington, Mrs. Dow Parker and child, Mrs. Perry Parker, Mr. Bagg and Mrs. Swan. Other citizens give the information that there were probably not more than a dozen bodies buried at this place and so far as possible all were moved to the new location.

In the year 1891 the township trustees (Richard Smith, O. A. Tuttle and R. H. West) deemed it necessary to enlarge the boundaries and, in order to meet the required wants, it became necessary to condemn the following tract of land: Commencing at the northeast corner of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 18, in township 75 north of range 31 west, and running west 50 rods, thence south 64 rods, to the place of beginning; except so much of said land as is now occupied as a cemetery. This proceeding was attended to at the November term of court, 1891. The verdict of the jury set aside the sum of \$917 as the price to be paid for the tract, which includes fifteen acres. Since that date there has been no additional land purchased.

In June, 1892, County Surveyor Sargent and a force of men worked several days surveying and plotting the new part. About four hundred lots, fourteen by twenty-six feet in dimensions, were plotted and the work of fencing began. The cemetery now includes twenty acres of land and about one thousand two hundred lots, varying in size from ten to twenty-five feet. A portion of it is not yet laid out in lots.

## EARLY FINANCE

Like most of the other counties in the state the early settlers got the general idea that the "speculators," as the people who bought land which they did not improve were called, were legitimate objects of graft effected through taxation. Many of the early contracts of county and township officers carried exorbitant bills for services rendered. It is related as an instance of the way things were done under the old system of county government, when each township elected a member of the board of supervisors, and when each bill before approved should be sworn to by the party making it, that at one time the son-in-law of one of the members of the board put in a bill for \$10 for work rendered the county. The father took it and wrote 100 before the 10, but the son said that he could not swear to it. When the bill came up for action the father said to the board, "Here is a bill not sworn to. I move we cut it down \$10 and allow it. We will teach him not to put in a bill not sworn to." The board promptly voted accordingly, thinking they had a good joke on the person presenting the bill.

## SHORT SKETCHES

A. P. Littleton was born in Fayette County, Ohio, and drove from his home in Ohio to Greenfield with a single horse and buggy, arriving here in June, 1859. He married Kate Myers of the County of Fayette, O., in Greenfield, in September, same year. They were the first to be married in the town. Mr. Littleton started the first store in Greenfield, which was located on the corner lot just north of the First National Bank. At that time he bought the goods for his store in St. Joseph, Mo., driving an ox team, loaded with products grown here which he sold there, returning with a load of dry goods and groceries. In this way it took two weeks to make the round trip. For twelve years he had the only store in Greenfield and he continued in this line of business for a total of twenty years. In 1880 Mr. Littleton was one of the organizers of the Citizens Bank, now the First National. In 1898 he purchased the entire stock of this institution and on June 1, 1900, the Citizens Bank became the First National Bank, with Mr. Littleton as the first president. In the early history of the town Mr. Littleton was often called upon to manage the affairs. During the time the county seat was moved to Greenfield from Fontanelle Mr. Littleton was chairman of the board of supervisors and his position was a very important one during those



stormy times. He was also postmaster for several years during the early days, when the salary amounted to about ten dollars a year. He also served as justice of the peace. Mr. Littleton is still living at Riverside, Cal., having retired from business several years ago.

D. N. Dunlap was born in Sangamon County, Ill., on November 17, 1838, of English and Scotch stock. He served during the Rebellion in Company B of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Illinois Regiment. He performed very meritorious service and saw much hard action. In 1867 he married Mary A. Shannon of New York. Mr. Dunlap lived for many years in Warrensburg and Decatur, Ill., where he was engaged in the grain business and farming and he then came to Fontanelle, while this country was still new. He engaged in the grain business at Fontanelle and built the first elevator there.

Two of the most notable characters in the history of Adair County were Mrs. Nancy Fort and Mrs. Thankful Priddy, twin sisters, who were born in Hancock County, Ind., in the year 1821, July 21, and lived to be over ninety years of age. They were married in their native county and then the two families came west and settled in Jasper County. During October, 1867, they moved to farms in Adair County, where their families were raised to manhood and womanhood.

J. N. Haddock, an early citizen of Greenfield, was born in Philadelphia and in 1858 came to Iowa City, Ia., and there engaged in the study of law until 1861 when he returned to Philadelphia and served on guard duty. In 1865 he returned to Iowa and completed his law course and was admitted to the bar. He was married to Ann J. Smiley in May, 1862. He came to Fontanelle in 1873 and to Greenfield in 1875 when the county seat was moved to the latter place. At Fontanelle he formed a partnership with J. H. Bailey. In 1878 he was elected clerk of the District Court of the county and served six years in this capacity. After leaving the clerk's office he formed a partnership with A. L. Hager which continued until the latter's removal to Des Moines. For a number of years he was member of the board of insanity. He served as mayor of Greenfield for four years. Mr. Haddock died July 1, 1911, at Cambridge, N. Y., at the home of his daughter.

James M. Gow, a native of Washington, Washington County, Pa., came to Adair County in the fall of 1870 in company with his brother, George L. He first settled in Fontanelle and shortly started the Adair County Reporter in partnership with James C. Gibbs. In 1875 this paper was moved to Greenfield, although Mr. Gow still



resided in Fontanelle. In 1881 he removed to the county seat. In 1889 the Reporter was merged with the Transcript and the business was carried on by Mr. Gow in partnership with C. B. Hunt and afterwards with A. J. Schrader. In 1900 the Transcript was sold to H. P. Gow and James M. Gow then devoted his time to his farming interests until the time of his death.

Franklin Letts, one of the very first business men to come to Greenfield, was born in New York State in 1832. He moved to Michigan and afterwards to Ohio and Illinois. In 1858 he married Jane E. Raymond of Mt. Vernon, Ohio. In 1862 he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Second Illinois Infantry and in 1868 he came overland to Adair County and to Greenfield where he resided until his death on April 9, 1911. When Mr. Letts first came to Greenfield the A. P. Littleton store was the only one in the town. He pursued the blacksmith trade most of the time here, in company with Blakeley.

John J. Hetherington was a native of Pennsylvania and after he received his education, engaged in clerical work in Pottsville. He served during the Civil war in the Twenty-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry and by his valorous services won a medal from the state. He was married to Rebecca Stilwell at Chicago on April 21, 1864. To them were born four children: Charles, Jessie, George and Bessie. On March 17, 1863 he went to Atchison, Kan., where he spent four and a half months, then came to Fontanelle, this county, where he engaged in the abstract and land business and began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1869. He had seen considerable service as deputy clerk when, in 1872, he was elected to the office of clerk of the District Court, serving therein three successive terms. In 1875 he removed to Greenfield and there continued in the land and abstract business, the firm being Hetherington & McCollum. He also filled the office of county judge, serving the unexpired term of his predecessor and one full term. He engaged in the banking business with Mr. Bevington and A. P. Littleton and helped organize the Citizens Bank of Greenfield. He remained in the banking business for seventeen years, and then retired, only to be appointed postmaster of Greenfield, which position he filled for four years. He was the first worshipful master of the Crusade Lodge No. 386, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Greenfield. Mr. Hetherington died in 1910.

Daniel Heaton, a Pennsylvanian, came to Adair County in 1875 and started the Adair County Bank at Greenfield. It was the first

bank in the county. Mr. Heaton became sole proprietor of this institution in 1887 and then built the structure which at present houses the institution. He was also one of the organizers of the Exchange Bank at Fontanelle and was at one time its president. Mr. Heaton died at his home in Wichita, Kan., on June 17, 1907.

John G. Culver came to Fontanelle in the early '70s and took charge of the high school. While teaching here he began the study of law with Galen F. Kilburn and after two years' time entered Kilburn's office and took charge of the land business. On the removal of the county seat to Greenfield Mr. Kilburn took his office to that place, leaving it under the management of Mr. Culver, he himself going to Creston to reside. Shortly afterward Mr. Culver was admitted to the bar and became one of the leading lawyers in the county. His death occurred January 8, 1907, at the age of fifty-eight years.

James C. Gibbs was born in the State of New York on December 3, 1820. He engaged in farming until 1855, when he determined to come west and seek a home. In June he arrived in Adair County and as they were just laying out the county seat he decided to cast his fortunes in that place, then called Summerset, now Fontanelle. He bought a lot and constructed a cabin and in August of the same year brought his family to his new home. He was the first settler in the township. He lived in the town for many years, being engaged in the various businesses of hotel keeping, newspaper, mercantile and real estate. In 1856 he was made postmaster of Fontanelle and held the position for two years. In the spring of 1857 he was elected school fund commissioner and held this office also for two years. He was deputy clerk at one time, county judge and in 1867 county treasurer. In 1862 he raised a company in Adair County for service in the War of the Rebellion, which was afterwards known as Company D, Twenty-ninth Iowa Infantry, of which he was commissioned captain, but after being in camp for about six months he was compelled to resign on account of sickness. He was married September 9, 1846, to Phoebe L. Filer and to them were born seven children, five surviving him: Josephine, Alanson O., Gertrude I., Lillian A. and Charles A., who were with him at the time of his death in 1907. The deceased moved his family to his farm in Summerset Township in 1878 and lived there until the fall of 1890 when he and his wife came to Greenfield. They lived here until the death of Mrs. Gibbs in 1894, after which he made his home with his many children. He was a charter member of the Fontanelle Masonic Lodge.

William D. McCollum was born in Vermont in 1856 and when about eighteen years of age came to Jefferson Township, Adair County, where he remained one year and taught school during the winter months. In 1875 he was appointed deputy county auditor and located in Fontanelle. When the county seat was moved he also came to Greenfield. He was elected county surveyor in 1877 and served for two years. At the end of this time he engaged in the land and abstract business in Greenfield. He served three terms as mayor of Greenfield, and was city treasurer at the time of his death on June 21, 1913. He was married in 1877 to Myra Peat of Greenfield and four children were born to them: Marian C., Howe D., H. Glenn and Fausta. This wife died in 1898 and in 1900 Mr. McCollum was married to Mary Romesha of Greenfield. Two children were born to them: William D. and Mary Ellen.

## CHAPTER XXVIII

### GEOGRAPHICAL REPORT ON ADAIR COUNTY

By James Willis Gow

The following report by Mr. Gow was written shortly before his death in 1913. The state department of geology did not know of the existence of the manuscript until it was accidentally discovered among his papers after his demise. The publishers of the Iowa County History are obliged to the Iowa State Department of Geology and to Prof. George F. Kay, state geologist, for the use of this creditable report.

Adair County is located in the third tier of counties north of the southern boundary of Iowa, and in the third tier east of the western boundary of the state. It is a square, consisting of sixteen geographical townships, and is bounded on the north by Guthrie County, on the east by Madison, on the south by Adams and Union and on the west by Cass. To the northeast and northwest it corners with Dallas and Audubon, respectively. Adair is essentially a prairie county. Lying well to the south of the Wisconsin lobe, whose moraine passes through Guthrie County, it shows no trace of constructional topography. It is thoroughly dissected by streams and its drainage system is complete. Its soil consists of typical Kansas till and its rolling topography is typically Kansan. The grand divide between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers passes through Adair County in an almost due northwest-southeasterly direction, so dividing it that approximately one-third of the county lies to the northeast of the divide and two-thirds to the southwest. Owing to the extremely dissected character of the topography, the "draws," or shallow valleys in which the smaller streams take their rise, interlock along the crest of the divide, so that the latter is very crooked. The county drains on the north and east through North River, Middle River and Grand River; on the south and west through the East and Middle Nodaway rivers. North and Middle rivers flow into the Des



Moines, and so form part of the Mississippi drainage system. Grand River and the Nodaways flow into the Missouri. Of these streams, Middle River and Bush Branch (a small tributary of Middle River) are the only ones that cut to bedrock in Adair County. Grand River cuts through bedrock in Madison County not very far from the county lines. The Nodaway cuts into bedrock near Mount Etna, in Adams County, and north of that point flows over a clay bed.

PREVIOUS GEOLOGICAL WORK

In 1849 Owen probably passed through the southern part of Adair County, or skirted along its southern border, on his way from Des Moines to Council Bluffs. In his "Report of a Geological Survey of Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota," published in 1852, Owen thus describes this portion of the journey:

"On the Grand River, in the vicinity of Pisgah, nothing but drift is to be seen. Some miles down the river, however, near a millsite, I was told by the Mormons that a kind of "soapstone" could be found at a low stage of water, which I supposed to be an indurated argillaceous shale; these deposits being popularly known by that name in the west. This I was unable to examine in person; indisposition, from fatigue and exposure, having brought on a relapse of intermittent fever, contracted while exploring the Des Moines.

The distances from Fort Des Moines to Pisgah are as follows:

To the crossing of North River.....	16 miles
To Middle River .....	12 "
To the South or Clanton Fork of Middle River..	2 "
To Clanton's .....	2 "
To Big Hollow .....	14 "
To forks of road leading to Bellevue.....	4 "
To Pisgah .....	6 "

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Total distance .....50 miles

"On the route from Pisgah to Council Bluffs, I crossed Grand River, the Platte Branch of Grand River, two branches of the Nodaway, A Hundred and Two River, and the east, middle and west branches of the Nishnabotna River. It was only on this latter stream that any rocks were found in place."

The writer cannot find that the memory of any such place as Pisgah lives at this time, though he has not had the privilege of inter-



viewing all the old settlers of the region in question. From the somewhat detailed table of distance given by Owen the place can be approximately located and it must have been at or near the site of the present Village of Macksburg, in Madison County. Scattering exposures of shale occur in that neighborhood. The reference to the mill site would seem to indicate Macksburg as the site of Pisgah. Owen's journey from Pisgah to Council Bluffs probably took him through the southern edge of what is now Adair County, but in the latter region he found no indurated rocks.

In 1868, White made some observations on the geology of Adair County, and these were published in his "Geology of Iowa," volume I, pages 336 to 339. In this report he described in considerable detail exposures of carboniferous rock found on sections 11 and 12 in Grove Township, a bed of modern peat in section 22 of Summerset Township, and other points of interest. White's work is useful to the geologist of the present day and reference will be made to it in the pages of this report.

In the late '70s a geological survey of Adair County was undertaken by Fox, but the work was barren of results and was soon abandoned.

In 1894, Keyes, in the Second Annual Report of the Iowa Geological Survey, reported on the presence of coal in Adair County. Further reference will be made to this report.

In 1911 Norton and Simpson reported on the underground waters and deep wells of Adair County, in volume XXI of the Iowa Reports. This article embodies data with regard to eighteen deep wells in various parts of the county.

The writer began work on the geology of Adair County in 1901, under direction of the state geologist, the late Prof. Samuel Calvin. In 1902 it was found necessary to drop the work for the time being and it was not possible to take it up again until 1912, when it was resumed and pushed to completion.

#### ELEVATIONS ABOVE SEA LEVEL

The official elevation as given for Greenfield was taken as a standard, the figures being supplied by the officials of the C., B. & Q. Railway, and after the aneroid had been set in accordance with this datum, readings were taken at the other points as indicated below. The readings for Stuart, Casey, Adair and Fontanelle were verified

by comparison with Gannett's Index of Elevations, and were found to be in substantial agreement.

Railway station at Stuart.....	1,216
“ “ “ Casey .....	1,248
“ “ “ Adair .....	1,442
“ “ “ Orient .....	1,334
“ “ “ Greenfield ..	1,368
“ “ “ Fontanelle .	1,244 (old station)
“ “ “ “ ..	1,282 (new station)
“ “ “ Bridgewater	1,188
Summerset Township:	
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 14.....	1,278
W. line N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 13.....	1,388
N. W. corner sec. 13.....	1,298
E. line S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 18.....	1,282
Jackson Township:	
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 34.....	1,198
Washington Township:	
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 16.....	1,155
Union Township:	
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 16.....	1,312
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 1.....	1,079
Jefferson Township:	
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 31.....	1,361
Grove Township:	
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 19.....	1,360
S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 1.....	1,098
N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 12.....	1,098
Harrison Township:	
W. line S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 18.....	1,068
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 20.....	1,060
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 21.....	1,038
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 27.....	988
S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 26.....	943
N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 36.....	940

#### EXPOSURES AND DEEP SHAFTS

The C., B. & Q. Railway in Adair County follows the crest of the divide as far north as Greenfield. The track is very crooked, heads

practically every "draw" in the entire twenty miles from Creston to Greenfield, and there are consequently no cuts in that distance. At Greenfield it drops into the valley of the Nodaway, which it follows as far as Fontanelle, there being some culverts and bridges but no cuts in the seven miles between the two towns. West of Fontanelle are a few shallow cuts in the drift.

The C., R. I. & P. Railway skirts along the northern edge of the county, and there are a number of rather deep cuts along its right of way. These never extend below the Kansan drift, but are useful as offering an opportunity to study the drift in vertical section.

The working of the roads in every part of the county has led to the making of many shallow cuts of from two to fifteen feet in depth, and much of the information with regard to the surface clays of the county has been derived from this source. As a rule it is best to study the cut immediately after it has been made, as a very few rains cause a washing of the clay that obscures things, but very often a few minutes' work with a spade is sufficient to reveal the underlying materials in their natural relations. Natural gullies developing in pasture and meadows occasionally make it possible to secure information regarding the underlying materials.

The various branches of the Nodaway dissect the western half of the county but do not cut below the drift. At most points the drift is masked by alluvium, but there are some good exposures. In the eastern part of the county Middle River cuts through the Kansan drift and into the carboniferous limestone below. At half a dozen points between Parry's Quarry and the county line the river flows over a rock bottom, the bottom at intervening points consisting of clay, sand or alluvium. Between the disposition of the carboniferous strata and the advance of the ice sheet was an immense interval of elevations and consequent erosion, and the present exposures of carboniferous rock represent the summits of the hills of the old eroded carboniferous land surface. The Kansan drift rests unconformably upon this eroded surface. Nebraskan and Aftonian materials underly the Kansan at many points in Adair County, but no trace of them is to be found in the Middle River exposures.

\* Most of the wells in this county do not penetrate into the bedrock, but merely reach "hardpan" or stiff, impermeable Kansan clay. The writer secured data with reference to eleven wells which penetrate below the level of the drift, reaching either carboniferous or cretaceous rock. Besides these eleven, eight more are reported by Simpson in Norton's report on the ground waters of Iowa. With regard to

most of these nineteen wells the available data are extremely meager. In only one case was a complete and accurate record of the section preserved. Data regarding the shallower wells are more readily obtained and throw some light on the relations of the various clays, sands and gravels making up the complex Kansan drifts. It is through an examination of these wells also that the evidence as to the presence of the Aftonian in Adair County has been chiefly brought to light.

There is but one mine shaft in the county, and while it is not now accessible for examination, the writer has been able to obtain an authentic record of this section.

#### EXPOSURES EAST OF THE DIVIDE

As has been said, the sections east of the divide include only two classes of material, Kansan drift and carboniferous rock. The carboniferous rocks of Adair County belong to the Bethany or lowermost member of the Missourian stage. Rocks belonging to this formation crop out at many points in Southwestern Iowa and Northern Missouri, the name being taken from Bethany, Mo., where they were first studied and where typical exposures occur. They are characterized by the nodular or fragmental character of some of the strata, by the presence of soft clays and light shales in connection with the harder nodular fragments; while interstratified with these materials are bands of fairly hard massive limestone. Partings of dark blue or black shale are common, separating the materials just mentioned, and some coal is occasionally present. Fragmental materials are particularly abundant in the lower portion of the Bethany, the massive limestone being nearly if not absolutely lacking, and this portion has been named the fragmental limestone. Above the fragmental limestone comes the Earlham limestone, a massive, light colored limestone that breaks or weathers in rectangular blocks and has occasional partings of light shale, while bands and nodules of chert are often present. Above the Earlham comes, in ascending order, the Winterset, De Kalb and Westerville limestones, these five members making up the Bethany. The Missourian rocks of eastern Adair County belong to the two lowermost members, the fragmental limestone and the Earlham limestone.

The first exposures investigated are on the west side of Middle River at Perry's Quarry in the northeastern corner of Grove Town-



ship. The rock is exposed in a ravine which approaches the river from the west. At two points, near the river on the north side of the ravine, and about fifty rods back from the river on the south side of the ravine, quarrying operations have been carried on in the past but were discontinued some years ago. The bottom of the ravine is flat, being in fact the flood plain of an intermittent brook which has cut in the middle of the plain a narrow gulley some three to five feet in depth. In the bottom of this gulley is exposed a stratum of brittle black slate. The section exposed on the south side of the valley, including the slate found in the gulley, is as follows:

10. Kansan drift .....	5 feet
9. Massive limestone, non-fossiliferous, rec- tangular weathering .....	4 "
8. Soft, light gray shale.....	1 "
7. Limestone, buff to white, with narrow partings of light shale.....	2 "
6. Soft, light gray shale.....	10 inches
5. Limestone, similar to No. 7.....	3 feet
4. Soft shale, gray to brown.....	1 "
3. Massive limestone without shale.....	3 "
2. Hidden by alluvium .....	10 "
1. Hard, black slate .....	3 inches
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Total .....	29 feet, 13 inches

The exposure nearer the river and on the opposite side of the gulley is practically identical with the one just given, except that a band of chert is found in the massive limestone five feet above the foot of the cliff. At either end the chert is concealed by talus. It is probably a lenticular mass of no great extent. Specimens of *Athyris subtilita*, *Spirifer cameratus* and *Productus nebrascensis* were found in the massive limestone of both of these exposures. The shale is non-fossiliferous. Some calcite crystals are present in the massive limestone. The Perry's Quarry exposures are mentioned by White in his "Geology of Iowa," page 336 of volume I, but no details are given. A third exposure, similar to those at Perry's Quarry, is found in the same section (12, Grove Township) and less than half a mile down the river. This is in the valley of the little tributary spoken of by



White as "Drake's Creek." The elevation is the same as that of Perry's Quarry and the section is as follows:

4. Kansan drift .....	5 feet	
3. Light buff limestone with frequent shaly partings, varying in thickness from $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to 1 foot.....	12 feet	
2. Heavy dark cherty limestone.....		5 inches
1. Darker limestone, without chert, and without shaly partings .....	5 feet	
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Total .....	22 feet	5 inches

The Perry's Quarry and Drake's Creek limestones and shales are referred to the Earlham formation, the nature and arrangement of materials tallying with that observed in the limestones exposed at Earlham in Madison County.

White, in the "Geology of Iowa," volume I, pages 336-339, described another exposure on Drake's Creek, which, according to his account, extended twenty-seven feet below the level of the exposure at Perry's Quarry, and the one just given. Of this I have been able to find no trace. The section as given by White is as follows:

6. Black carbonaceous shale, a few inches at top consisting of impure coal .....	2 feet	
5. Marly clay .....	$\frac{1}{2}$ foot	
4. Hard, bluish, impure limestone.....	1 foot	
3. Brownish clayey shale .....	1 foot	
2. Hard, dark-colored, impure limestone.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ foot	
1. Fine-grained, micaceous, sandy shale, becoming darker and more clayey at the top.....	22 feet	
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Total .....	27 feet	

White regarded this as equivalent with the fragmental limestone of Decatur County, and this interpretation is doubtless correct, as the latter includes more or less clay which is sometimes sandy. While he does not report actual fragmental materials from the Drake's Creek section, the materials reported are strictly similar to those usually found in connection with the fragmental materials at other localities.

Following on down Middle River, the next exposure is on the Keating farm just above Port Union, and within sight of the mill at the latter place. On a sloping bank fifteen feet above the low-water level stands a large boulder of hard, well cemented breccia. Although the hillside is badly masked by drift, an examination shows that the bedrock at this point consists of similar breccia, but the exposure is so unsatisfactory on account of the mantle of drift that it is impossible to say how far up and down the valley it extends. It appears to dip sharply to the southwest. The fragments of which this breccia consists are of a fine-grained, light buff limestone, are quite angular, and vary in size from a quarter of an inch up to eight or ten inches in diameter. The cementing material is similar but somewhat coarser in texture, and inclined to be crystalline. A few broken specimens of *Athyris subtilita* appear in the angular fragments of the breccia.

The third exposure is at the west end of the dam at the Port Union mill. The section is as follows:

5. Black alluvium .....	10 feet
4. Yellow till, somewhat gravelly.....	5 feet
3. Hard, light buff limestone, varying to white or light gray, richly fossiliferous .....	2 feet
2. Very soft, homogeneous, blue-black shale, richly fossiliferous	4 feet
1. Hard, light-colored, fossiliferous limestone.....	2 feet
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Total .....	23 feet

Below the dam the stream flows over a rock bottom consisting of limestone No. 1 of the section just given. At high water No. 2 is covered. Strata Nos. 1 and 3 bear the following fossils:

*Spirifer cameratus*.

*Productus* (fragments).

Crinoid stems in great abundance.

*Rhombopora lepidodendroides*.

*Athyris subtilita*.

*Fenestalla* —sp.

*Derbya crassa*.

*Myalina subquadrata*.

Number 2 of this section (which will hereafter be spoken of as the "Port Union shale") bears the following:

*Nucula* (*ventricosa* [?]).

*Aviculapecten occidentalis*.

*Monotis* (*gregaria* [?]).

*Nuculana bellistriata*.

Unidentified gasteropods.

Numerous molluscs.

A complete list of the Port Union fauna must be reserved for a future report. It is essentially molluscan in its character, and is characterized by the absence of *Productids*, *Spirifers*, and *crinoid stems*, all of which are present in the limestones both above and below, and by the absence of *Chonetes verneuili*, a fossil that is characteristic of the shales farther down the river.

Exposure No. 4 is on the south bank of the river, in section 21 of Harrison Township. Twenty-two feet of limestone are here exposed.

6. Kansan till, blue below, yellow at surface, slightly gravelly in places .....	5 feet
5. Light-colored massive limestone .....	1 foot
4. Fragmental limestone, fairly compact below, then with frequent partings of soft clay, finally shad- ing up into a soft purple clay in which but few hard limestone fragments occur .....	14 feet 6 inches
3. Hard, light-colored fossiliferous limestone.....	1 foot
2. Soft blue-black shale .....	2 feet 6 inches
1. Light buff limestone, fossiliferous, largely con- cealed by talus .....	3 feet
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Total .....	27 feet

Stratum No. 1 of this exposure bears *Athyris subtilita* and fragments of an unidentified *spirifer*. The only fossil found in No. 2 is *Chonetes verneuili*, but the search was not long continued at this point. No molluscs were observed. In color and texture the shale is precisely similar to that found at Port Union. The limestone fragments of No. 4 are light in color, of variable hardness, and inclined to be angular. The clay is of about the consistency of the harder Kansan till, or "hard-pan," breaks in the same way, checks on drying, and loses color on exposure to the weather. The original color is not the blue-black of the shale, but a blue-purple which approximates the color of the deeper Kansan drift. On leaching it passes through the various shades of purple-brown, dark brown, light brown and yellow-brown. It is non-fossiliferous, and contains no rock fragments other

than the nodular masses of limestone already mentioned. It seldom shows distinct marks of stratification. Strata Nos. 4 and 5 are again exposed in a ravine which comes down parallel with the course of the Middle River and enters the latter a few rods below the exposure just described. The characteristics differ in no way from those already given, except that stratum 5 is two feet or more in thickness. On a small tributary in section 22 three feet of buff limestone is exposed, the underlying rock being hidden. In this exposure were found specimens of *Productus nebrascensis*.

The next exposure is in a narrow ravine on the Pemberton farm in section 27, Harrison Township. A second section is exposed somewhat farther down the ravine, and the two in combination give the following:

10. Kansan till, with small boulders.....	3 feet
9. Blue clay, similar to that found in stratum No. 4 of the fourth exposure .....	2 feet
8. Buff limestone .....	1 foot
7. Fragmental limestone, with much purple clay..	6 feet 6 inches
6. Buff limestone .....	1 foot
5. Fragmental limestone .....	3 feet
4. Limestone, buff to dark brown.....	2 feet
3. Hidden by sand, clay and boulders accumulated in stream bed .....	3 feet
2. Limestone, buff to dark brown.....	1 foot
1. Dark blue-black shale .....	2 feet
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Total .....	24 feet 6 inches

Near the top of No. 9 is a band of very brittle black shale about half an inch in thickness. No. 10 is unconformable upon No. 9, the difference in color and texture being readily distinguishable at a distance of twelve or fifteen feet. The Kansan here is leached to a light yellow, and bears a few pebbles and small boulders. The blue clay is non-fossiliferous. The blue shale (No. 1) contains specimens of *Chonetes verneuilanus*. This shale is almost black in color and similar in texture to that found at Port Union. Limestone No. 4 contains an abundance of *Rhombopora lepidodendroides*. Many crinoid stems are also present.

In section 26 of Harrison Township the following exposure is found in the valley of a small brook putting into Middle River from the south:

11. Gravelly, dark-colored Kansan till.....	3 feet
10. Hard brown-buff limestone .....	8 inches
9. Purple clay, weathered brown to yellow.....	1 foot 6 inches
8. Black, laminated shale, very soft.....	1 inch
7. Fragmental limestone, grading upward into clay.	10 feet
6. Buff limestone with two shale bands.....	5 feet
5. Fragmental limestone .....	5 feet
4. Very fossiliferous blue-black shale.....	2 feet
3. Hard bluish limestone .....	5 feet
2. Very soft blue-black shale.....	2 feet
1. Brittle black slate .....	6 inches
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Total .....	34 feet 9 inches

Stratum 6 of this exposure contains quantities of *Fusulina secalicus*. No. 10 is entirely non-fossiliferous. No. 3 contains *Spirifer cameratus*, *Productus punctatus*, *P. costatus*, *P. longispinus*, *Derbya crassa*, *Rhombopora lepidodendroides*, many crinoid stems and other fossils. No. 4 contains *Chonetes verneuili*. The last of the Middle River exposures in Adair County is near the east line of section 36, Harrison Township. Several feet of blue-black shale occur capped by massive limestone.

On Bush's Branch, in section 13, Grand River Township, occurs the following exposure:

2. Alluvium .....	3 feet
1. Soft black shale .....	5 feet

The black shale is extremely rich in specimens of *Chonetes verneuili* which, when the spot was last visited, had weathered out clean and formed a small talus at the foot of the bank. This is the last of the carboniferous exposures in Adair County. Near the old mill at the Village of Webster, in Madison County, something over a mile east of the exposure found in section 36 of Harrison Township, several feet of rusty-colored *Fusulina* limestone is exposed, but its relations to the beds above and below have not been traced by the writer. Probably this represents about the upper limit of the frag-



mental limestones and their associated clays, shales and massive limestones, and the beginning of the Earlham and Winterset limestones. As the name would indicate, the latter occur near Winterset, together with the fragmental limestones. The relation between the three at that point has been described by Tilton in the report on the geology of Madison County, in the publications of the Iowa State Geological Survey.

Except for the anomalous Port Union shales and Keating breccia, the relations of the Missourian strata exposed in the eastern half of Adair County are quite clear. In Grove Township occur the Earlham limestones, resting on a foundation of fragmental limestone. (The clay and shale described by White evidently belong to the horizon of the fragmental, though he does not describe the actual fragmental materials. Their associated clays are characteristic.) How large a territory is covered by the Earlham in Adair County is impossible to say. Except at the points indicated it is completely masked by the Kansan drift sheet. All that we know with certainty is that east of Port Union it was eroded away previous to the deposition of the drift; the surface rock in all exposures from Port Union to the county line belonging to the fragmental limestone, and closely resembling the fragmental as described by Bain in Decatur County and by Tilton in Madison. The exposures of Earlham limestone at Earlham, Winterset, Perry's Quarry and other localities, are probably isolated outliers. In a region so completely covered by drift, the relations of the underlying indurated rocks cannot be worked out with anything like completeness.

In describing the type section of fragmental limestone at Bethany, Mo., Bain ("Iowa Geological Survey," volume VIII) mentions that the lowermost portions of the deposit consist of a hard breccia. This may be identical with the breccia found on the Keating farm, but the elevation of the latter indicates that it corresponds with the upper and not the lower portion of the fragmental. If it is to be regarded as corresponding to the breccia as found at Bethany, the relations of the deposits in Adair County would suggest a north-and-south anticline whose axis would pass somewhere near Port Union. On the other hand, the Keating breccia may be younger than the Earlham, and may have been deposited after the erosion of the latter, in which case the angular fragments of which it consists are fragments of Earlham limestone weathered from the eroding surface and the cementing material belongs to some later formation. If the former view be adopted, one may well question the nature of the

process that led at one point to the formation of a breccia (for such the fragmental limestone is) whose cementing material is a soft clay, while at the same time and only a mile or two away similar breccia was being formed with a hard calcareous cement. The Port Union shale, also, with its distinctive fauna, suggests an interval of time between its deposition and that of the other shales here described, which occur at about the same level. But the limited exposure both of the breccia and the Port Union shale forbids the solution of this problem at the present time.

The general dip of the Earlham limestone and the fragmental limestone in Adair County is toward the south. Middle River, cutting in a southeasterly direction through these southerly dipping strata, gives them an apparent dip to the southeast. The apparent southeast dip is of course less than the actual southerly dip. The former amounts to about ten feet to the mile, or about the same as the gradient of the bed of Middle River.

#### SECTIONS OF INDURATED ROCK WEST OF THE DIVIDE

The west half of the county is covered by a thick mantle of drift, and no streams cut to bedrock. Consequently the only obtainable evidence as to the nature of the indurated rocks is to be obtained from deep borings, and the number of the latter records which have been preserved is all too small. The results indicate that the surface of the Missourian is at places covered by a veneer of Cretaceous sandstone belonging to the Dakota stage. The following shafts have been investigated:

On the farm of J. A. Hulbert, in Washington Township,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles southeast of Bridgewater, rock was encountered at a depth of 275 feet. After penetrating through twelve feet of soft sandstone, further drilling was abandoned.

At the residence of J. G. Hendry, one mile south of Bridgewater, a well was sunk some fifteen years ago, and the record, carefully preserved by Mr. Hendry, reads as follows:

Blue clay .....	65 feet
White clay .....	40 feet
Gravel .....	1 foot
Dark, soft sandstone .....	12 feet
Hard clay, dark in color.....	2 feet
Sandstone .....	18 feet

Slate .....	2 feet
Coal .....	22 inches
Limestone .....	18 feet
Quicksand and water .....	
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Total .....	158 feet 22 inches

The gravel occurring just below the white clay is described as consisting of pebbles which were much water worn and very hard, and of rather uniform size. The white clay was of such a character as to color the water milky when it was first drawn from the well. Both it and the blue clay above contained few pebbles. Eighty feet lower down the hillside and half a mile or less from the site of the first well another shaft was put down with the following result:

Blue clay .....	177 feet
Red clay with many pebbles.....	3 feet
Blue-black carboniferous shale .....	40 feet
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Total .....	220 feet

The black shale contained two or three narrow bands of coal, but was otherwise homogeneous in its nature and of a smooth, even consistency. The "red clay with many pebbles" is probably a phase of the Dakota sandstone. In the first section the line of separation between the Missourian and the Dakotan is the two feet of black slate lying immediately above the stratum of coal.

On the farm of E. Stacey, one mile northwest of Bridgewater, in the digging of a well shaft a forest bed was struck at a depth of forty feet. After taking out a section of a good-sized log, probably of cedar, digging was resumed. Ten feet lower the auger entered black shale. The water was dark in color and had a bad taste. No indication of the presence of cretaceous materials appeared in this well, the drift lying in immediate contact with the Missourian shale.

On the farm of W. W. Witham, in Summerset Township, a short distance west of Greenfield, a well was sunk to a depth of 275 feet. At about two hundred forty feet the drill passed into limestone with bands of black and blue shale. No Dakotan gravels or sandstones were present. The Missourian limestone was covered by 240 feet of blue clay, with some small pebbles and boulders.

A shaft sunk by the City of Greenfield for the purpose of securing a water supply for the municipal electric lighting plant passed through 208 feet of Kansan clay and thirteen feet of Missourian limestone and shale. No gravels were encountered. A few small pebbles were found in the clay, and at one point a thin bed of sandy clay was encountered. As usual, the complete record was not preserved.

A shaft sunk on the farm of F. H. Seers, five miles north of Fontanelle, is reported as passing into soft sandstone at a depth of 260 feet. About twenty feet of the sandstone was penetrated without noting any change in the nature of the materials.

On the farm of Henry Rose, two miles north of Bridgewater, Missourian limestone was struck at a depth of 270 feet, while a shaft on the farm of Al Bowers, a mile or two north of the Rose farm, passed into Dakota sandstone at a depth of 260 feet. Forty feet of fine-grained sandstone is also reported from a well bored by William Turner near Adair.

The only record of Dakota sandstone east of the divide is given by Simpson in Norton's report on the underground waters of Iowa. This is a well bored on the Whittum farm in section 19 of Lincoln Township.

Enough has been said to indicate that the surface of the Missourian rock in Adair County is dotted with scattered outliers of Dakota sandstone. Probably no part of the county is covered with a solid and continuous mass of cretaceous rock. The variation in the depth at which rock is encountered indicates two things: the depth of the erosion to which the Kansan drift has been subjected, and the depth of the erosion to which the underlying rocks were subjected before the coming of the ice sheet.

The abandoned Eureka coal shaft, six miles south of Adair, passes entirely through drift and Missourian rock. The shaft is now partially filled, and is not in condition for examination, but was described by Keyes ("Iowa Report," Volume II) as follows in the year 1894:

"The shaft is 262 feet in depth, the coal varying from 20 to 32 inches in thickness. The roof is bituminous shale. The bottom of the shaft shows:

Clay shale (exposed) .....	2 feet
Coal .....	2 feet
Fire clay .....	8 inches
Shale, dark (exposed) .....	1 foot 4 inches
Total .....	6 feet



"The mine is worked on the long wall plan. There are a few unimportant clay seams, but no other breaks in the continuity of the bed. This is a new mine. The coal has been taken out only from about one hundred fifty to two hundred feet to the east and west of the bottom of the shaft. It is reported that there are two other seams below the one now worked, one at a depth of about forty-five feet and the other at a depth of about fifty-five feet from the bottom of the shaft."

In June, 1892, a correspondent of the Greenfield Transcript wrote as follows:

"The size of the shaft is 6 by 16 feet and is divided into three apartments. At the depth of over a hundred feet they found a cedar post. The dirt passed through was very hard and had to be dug with a pick. Thence through different kinds of clay and into soapstone. The caprock is four feet and nine inches thick. After passing that, came into two feet of black looking substance which contained coal blossom; passing on into slate, thence into a three-foot vein of good coal. The shaft is 228 feet deep, and the coal is deposited 268 feet from the top of the ground."

The evidence of a forest bed, in the shape of a cedar log, is significant. The soapstone is probably a smooth, homogeneous shale, such as is characteristic of the Missourian rocks of this part of the state. No cretaceous rocks appear at this point. The coal and associated strata here and in the shaft near Bridgewater are probably to be referred to the horizon of the Nodaway coal as described by Smith for the counties south and southwest of Adair, but the formation is so scanty that no definite correlation is yet possible. If this supposition is correct, the Nodaway coal lies at a considerably greater depth below the Nodaway Valley in Adair County than in Page and Montgomery counties.

#### THE DRIFT SHEETS

The Nebraskan drift sheet probably underlies the Kansan drift in parts of Adair County, but it is impossible from existing evidence to say anything definite with regard to its extent. Probably, however, the greater part of the Nebraskan material was eroded away by the advancing Kansan glacier and incorporated in the Kansan drift. The same may be said of the Aftonian gravels lying on top of the Nebraskan. The summits of the carboniferous hills were denuded of these materials by the advancing Kansan ice sheet, and they are



found today only in those places where the carboniferous rock lies at a low level. There can be no doubt as to the identity of the Aftonian gravels when found; but it must be borne in mind that the Aftonian did not cover the entire surface of the Nebraskan, but was laid down in the beds of the numerous streams by which the Nebraskan drift plain was dissected during the gradual retreat of the ice sheet. Consequently there may be many places where the Kansan drift rests directly upon the Nebraskan. The only way to demonstrate such a relation between the two is to find them exposed in section and demonstrate the existence of an unconformity; and as the only evidence upon the subject is that obtained from the record of well shafts, such a demonstration is of course out of the question. Immediately above the Nebraskan and Aftonian comes the Kansan drift. Through the removal of the earlier deposits the Kansan frequently rests directly upon the bed rock. Whatever the underlying material, whether Aftonian gravels, Nebraskan drift, Dakota sandstone, or Missourian limestone, there is always of course absolute unconformity between it and the Kansan. The thickness of the Kansan, and the nature of the materials composing it, may best be indicated by the sections of a number of well shafts investigated by the writer:

1. On the Conway farm, west of Macksburg in Madison County, but not far from the Adair County line, a well shaft was dug which passed through fifty feet of alluvium and Kansan drift. For the most part the latter consisted of a stiff, blue clay, unstratified, and without boulders, though containing a few small pebbles. Below this a bed of sandy clay was struck in which was imbedded a log of hard wood, probably walnut, four feet in diameter.

2. On the same farm, at about the same depth, the auger entered the bed of rather soft, ill preserved peat. The peat seemed to consist principally of compacted grass and grass roots, and was roughly but not inaptly described by the well digger as a "fossil haystack." Above it lay a nodule of brown haematite the size of a goose egg.

3. On the farm of J. M. Wilson, in section 12, Union Township, a well was dug with the following result:

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 3. Black surface soil with much humus.....                      | 1 foot  |
| 2. Stiff joint clay, yellow near surface, blue<br>beneath ..... | 49 feet |
| 1. Black silt, with many small wood chips.....                  | 3 feet  |

The yellow and blue clay was entirely unstratified, contained a very few pebbles and small boulders, and in places numerous lime concretions.

4. On what is known as the Ed Baker farm, northwest of Macksburg, a well was dug, the auger passing through twenty feet of stiff joint clay, varying in color from yellow to blue-black. An impediment was then encountered in the shape of a mass of twigs and sticks lying criss-cross and very slightly compacted. Associated with these were pebbles and bog-iron nodules. The larger sticks were as large as a man's arm, or larger, and were much broken and apparently gnawed at the ends, but not decayed.

5. On the Funk farm, northwest of Greenfield, section 2, Sumner Township, the well digger reports that at a depth of twenty-three feet he was obliged to chop through a willow log six inches in diameter.

6. Some years since the writer watched the boring of a well on lot 3, block 36, original Town of Greenfield. The auger passed through two feet of black surface soil, then entering yellow-brown joint clay, the upper three inches of which had a slightly reddish cast. It passed through fifty feet of stiff joint clay, varying in color from yellow-brown to dark blue-brown, absolutely unstratified, and containing no sand, gravel or boulders.

7. A second well on the same lot passed through thirty feet of stiff blue joint clay without pebbles, sand or boulders. The lower part of this was the so-called "stinking clay." The two wells were about a hundred yards apart.

8. In the northwest corner of section 7, Jefferson Township, a well was sunk to the depth of about thirty feet. The first twenty feet passed through fine-grained black sand with an admixture of barely enough clay to bind it somewhat. The auger then entered stiff blue Kansan clay. The sand is doubtless post-Kansan, and was laid down as part of the old flood plain of Middle River.

9. In digging a well on the Sears farm, in Jackson Township, a number of logs were encountered at a depth of thirty or forty feet. The overlying material is unstratified blue and yellow clay with many pebbles and small angular fragments of quartzite.

10. In a well on the farm of E. Stacey the auger penetrated to the depth of forty feet through stiff blue clay. At that depth a section of a good sized log of some coniferous wood was removed from the shaft. After digging an additional ten feet through gravelly clay,

black carboniferous shale was encountered. The water was reported unfit for use.

11. The city well at Greenfield is bored through 208 feet of stiff blue joint clay, very slightly sandy in places, unstratified, and containing a few small angular pebbles. This is four blocks distant from the Greenfield well already mentioned. The Kansan rests directly on Missourian limestone.

12. In the well on the Witham farm, already mentioned, the clay is reported as having a thickness of 240 feet and resting directly on Missourian limestone. The clay is blue, unstratified, showing typical joint structure, and containing a very few small angular pebbles and boulders.

13. In section 31, Jefferson Township, the writer watched the boring of a well some fifteen years ago. The well was sunk to the depth of about thirty-five feet, the material consisting of a stiff blue clay, unstratified, and without pebbles below the first four feet, very few being present there. The material from this well was piled near the shaft and left there permanently. In 1911 it was examined by the writer. The clay still showed the joint texture, but as a result of leaching it crumbled somewhat more readily than it had when first taken out, and the color had changed from dark blue to light brown-yellow. In fact, as last seen, it was precisely the same soil that many observers have mistakenly supposed to be loess, and that has occasionally been described as loess when reported from Southwestern Iowa. All that is necessary to the artificial manufacture of loess of this sort is that typical blue joint clay be dug up from the lower portion of the Kansan drift sheet and exposed to the action of the weather for several years. The surface soil in many parts of Adair County (i. e., wherever it is not covered by alluvium or blackened by plant humus) consists of this leached Kansan clay. Sometimes it contains pebbles or boulders, more frequently not. Rarely it is decidedly gravelly. Lime concretions are not infrequent. The well just mentioned showed many of them.

14. Two wells were dug on section 26, Orient Township, under the writer's immediate observation. The section of one is as follows:

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 5. Black soil .....  | 1 foot |
| 4. Unstratified, yellow-brown joint clay, grad-<br>ing insensibly down into..... | 3 feet |

3. Unstratified, stiff blue joint clay, without pebbles or boulders. This again grades insensibly into ..... 8 feet
2. Blue joint clay, containing numerous angular pebbles and this in turn grades insensibly into the next..... 3 feet
1. Blue joint clay without pebbles or boulders. 15 feet

The shaft of the second well is almost identical with the foregoing except that a very few angular pebbles were scattered through strata Nos. 1, 3 and 4. Stratum No. 2 shows no signs of stratification, but consists of perfectly typical Kansan clay.

In addition to the foregoing data, the writer has made careful observations wherever the working of the roads has exposed good sections. The individual points at which observations of this sort have been made it is unnecessary to catalog, since the entire county has been thoroughly covered in this respect, and the results everywhere agree. The surface soil, everywhere except where covered by alluvium or modified by the presence of abundant plant humus, is a joint clay, that is, a clay that when crushed dry in the fingers becomes coarsely granular in texture. It is usually light in color, varying through the shades of brownish yellow and brown. No surface soil has been found that has the peculiar smooth "greasy" consistency characteristic of the Iowa and the Missouri loess, nor has any been found that blows up in the fine, impalpable dust characteristic of the loess. The granular surface clay, when exposed in a fresh cut, sometimes shows lime nodules, sometimes not. Where it has been penetrated by plant roots the latter are sometimes surrounded by iron, and the soil at the lower limit of the portion penetrated by the grass roots sometimes shows a reddish streak. It is never fossiliferous. Pebbles and small quartzite fragments as large as one's two fists are not uncommon, large boulders are occasionally present, and very frequently it is—like the underlying blue clay—entirely without stone fragments of any sort whatever. When pebbles and boulders are present they are usually very angular. The largest boulder the writer has seen was one about three feet in diameter on section 31, Jefferson Township, and in Greenfield a number of quartzite boulders two feet in diameter are used as cornerstones and hitching posts, but stones of this size are extremely rare. This yellow joint clay grades down insensibly into the stiff blue clay beneath, and it is impossible ever to



draw a definite line of separation between the two. In fact, when the stiff blue clay is exposed at the surface the action of the weather leaches it out to a yellow tint, it becomes somewhat more porous and takes on all the characteristics of the surface clay as here described. In view of these facts the writer is driven to believe that they are in fact identical.

To sum up: The lower Pleistocene of Adair County consists of a thin sheet of Nebraskan till, most of which may have been removed or incorporated into the Kansan, and a sheet of gravels and silts representing the Aftonian interglacial period. The latter is present at many points in the county, under the thick Kansan drift, as evidenced by the presence of a forest bed containing logs of a variety of species of trees and also by the presence of stratified gravels, sand and peat, and frequent iron nodules. The cases mentioned here in detail are but a few of many that might be found. So general is this condition that well diggers tell the writer that below a depth of thirty-five or forty feet they "expect to strike logs," and the Aftonian gravel is well recognized among local well diggers as a water bearing stratum. Mr. Jesse Hines, a veteran well digger residing in Greenfield and well known to the writer for many years, writes thus: "We find pieces of wood in this county anywhere when we go down through blue or black clay." Many other well diggers bear witness to the correctness of this statement. Above the Aftonian lies the Kansan drift, of variable thickness, depending upon the two factors of pre-Kansan erosion and post-Kansan erosion, but at least two hundred seventy feet at its maximum. This is a heterogeneous mass of clays, sands, gravels and boulders, the various materials being arranged in no discoverable order. They never show signs of stratification, nor do they at different points in the county sustain a uniform relation to each other. The materials lie as they were left by the ice, and are, as one would expect, absolutely heterogeneous. Large boulders are rare, smaller fragments not uncommon, the prevailing stone being Sioux quartzite. Sands and gravels are not very common. The typical material is stiff blue joint clay, which on exposure to the weather becomes lighter in color except where stained by iron or darkened by products of vegetable decay. The blue clay varies in density. When very dense it becomes, when once wet, impermeable by water from above, and is known as hard pan. The hard pan grades insensibly into the softer clay above and below. It sustains no constant to the other materials and may be found at any depth.



## POST-PLEISTOCENE DEPOSITS

The post-Pleistocene materials occurring in Adair County may be classified as alluvium, stratified gravels, stratified sands, and peat. Of these, the first three belong together and are associated with the flood plains of the larger streams. It should be added, however, that many smaller streams, even of an intermittent character, have fairly well defined valleys with flood plains a few rods in width, while others have failed to broaden their valleys in this way, and have cut mere gulleys in the Kansan plain. It is of course impossible to indicate the location of narrow alluvial bottoms along the course of the smaller prairie streams.

Typical alluvium as found in Adair County is when dry a very dark gray-brown; when wet it becomes black. It is usually more or less distinctly stratified. Occasionally sand and alluvium are found interstratified, the former of course representing an old bar, the latter being laid down on top of the bar after it had become a part of the overflow plain, through the deepening and shifting of the stream's course. The flood plain is usually broader on the north and east sides of the valley than on the south and west. In the former case it slopes gently back to the hills bordering the valley; in the latter case it usually forms a more acute angle with the hills at their base. The hills to the south and west have a steeper gradient than have those to the north and east. The latter slope southwesterly and face the noon-day and afternoon sun. The former are shaded during much of the day, and consequently hold the frost longer in the spring and are not so subject to erosion. This variation in the contours of two sides of a valley is constant throughout the county for all the larger streams. The best sheltered flood plains are on the right hand side of the valleys, and it is there that the timber is densest and there the moisture-loving and shade-loving plants flourish most luxuriantly.

An interesting deposit of stratified gravels and peat is found on the Burrell farm, two miles southwest of Greenfield. At the extreme edge of the flood plain of a small tributary of the East Nodaway, a gravel pit has been sunk to a depth of eight feet. On the side toward the hill the gravel is distinctly stratified with much cross-bedding. On the opposite side, next the flood plain, the section shows a more uniformly horizontal stratification without cross-bedding, the material being the same coarse gravel mixed with many nodules and cysts of bog iron, the whole bound together by layer after layer of coarse dark colored peat. The peat is very recent, as is evidenced by the fact that

the topmost layer forms the present ground surface and shows the hummocks characteristic of the slough grass growing here before the bottom was sowed to blue grass. The peat consists merely of layer after layer of solidified or semi-solidified grass roots to the thickness of about five feet. Many of the tinier roots are more or less intact and are surrounded by red tubules of bog-iron. The hollow bog-iron cysts so common at this point are frequently filled with a matted tangle of grass roots. The cysts vary in size from the size of a hazelnut up to ten or twelve inches in diameter. The pebbles making up the gravel exposed at this point are extremely waterworn, more so than those usually found in the beds of streams cutting through the Kansan drift. Their rounded condition, and the fact that quartzite fragments are not present, would suggest an Aftonian origin. The writer suspects that this gravel deposit was originally an Aftonian boulder, ploughed up by the Kansan ice sheet in its advance, and buried in the Kansan till. Subsequent erosion cut the valley, and in doing so cut through one side of the boulder. Owing to a local imperfection in the post-Kansan drainage system, however, the material was not carried down into the Nodaway, but was caught in a small bog at the foot of the hill and there re-deposited with horizontal stratification. Much coarse grass was growing in the bog, and the peat thus formed was interstratified with the gravel washed down from the hillside. Haematite cysts and nodules would necessarily form under these conditions. The area of the peat may be traced to the alluvial bottom by the poor growth of the blue grass, and the fact that it is of a much darker color than is the surrounding grass. The little peat bog is only a few rods in diameter. It is interesting to note that this tiny and inconspicuous peat bed was discovered by White and is noted by him in his geology of Iowa. He did not, of course, discover the gravels, as they were not uncovered until 1910.

Another peat bed is known to the writer, in the northeast corner of Walnut and northwest corner of Jefferson townships. This is a part of the flood plain of Middle River and was originally covered with hummocks of coarse slough grass. It was an area of imperfect drainage, about thirty rods in diameter, doubtless having been originally an ox-bow lake and having been filled up by successive crops of grass. Years ago this was turned into a pasture and the blue grass turf finally covered it. A well sunk in the turf to a depth of three feet gave an inexhaustible supply of extremely clear water. In wet seasons the place showed a tendency to revert to its boggy condition, owing to the fact that the cattle tramped out the turf, and

it was decided to drain the bog into Middle River. The ditch was dug to a depth of five feet, through a rather coarse, but densely compacted dark brown peat. Doubtless many peat bogs of this sort might be found along the alluvial plains of the larger streams.

#### PALEONTOLOGY

The shells of modern land snails are frequently found in the alluvium of flood plains and terraces. No systematic investigation of these has yet been made, and the subject must be reserved for a future paper.

The joint clay which makes up the greater part of the Kansan drift sheet is entirely non-fossiliferous. Many species of land molluscs dwell on the surface of the drift and are often buried by caving banks or become covered by the humus which forms a veneer over the surface, but careful search has failed to reveal any imbedded in the body of the drift. The leached portions of the drift sheet, which has been sometimes mistakenly described as "loess" is non-fossiliferous equally with the deeper and more compact clay.

Owing to the extremely limited opportunities for observation nothing is known as to the fossiliferous character of the Dakota deposits in Adair County. No fossils are reported from the few shafts which penetrate this formation.

The Earlham limestone contains the following species:

*Productus nebrascensis*.  
*P. punctatus*.  
*Athyris subtilita*.

The massive ledges found below the level of the Earlham in connection with the fragmental limestone, reveal the following fauna:

*Productus nebrascensis*.  
*P. cora*.  
*P. costatus*.  
*P. punctatus*.  
*P. longispinus*.  
*Spirifer cameratus*.  
*Athyris subtilita*.  
*Fenestella* ——— sp.  
*Rhombopora lepidodendroides*.

*Allerisma terminale.*  
*Derbya crassa.*  
*Fistulipera nodulifera.*  
*Fusulina secalicus.*

The blue shale associated with the foregoing limestone is particularly rich in *Chonetes verneuianus*.

The Port Union shale contains a rich and distinctive fauna, of which only the following can be here given:

*Aviculapecten neglectus.*  
*A. ——— sp.*  
*Myalina subquadrata.*

Owing to the extremely soft and brittle character of the Port Union shale, the securing of perfect fossil remains from it is very difficult, but it is extremely fossiliferous, and will repay future investigation on the part of the paleontologists. In the Keating breccia were found remains of *Athyris subtilita*, and an unidentified *Productus*.

#### ECONOMIC GEOLOGY

In an earlier day much limestone was quarried from the Earlham and the thin ledges of massive limestone associated with the Fragmental, but the cheapening of cement construction has driven the limestone out of use. For a limestone, the Earlham resists the action of rain and frost excellently. Many foundations and one stone house forty years old bear witness to its enduring qualities. For purposes of construction, the Fragmental proper is of course worthless. The massive limestone will be marketable for macadam and concrete construction as soon as the Port Union country shall be opened up by the advent of a railroad, but the Fragmental cannot even be used for this purpose, since it contains too great an admixture of carboniferous clay. The Port Union shales, and the other blue shales cropping out farther down Middle River are of smooth, even consistency, without grit, and with the limestone should make a cement of good quality. This industry also awaits the coming of a railroad to make it profitable.

The brick industry in Adair County goes back to the very early times. At a very early day there were brickyards at Fontanelle, Adair and Casey. About thirty years ago there was a brickyard



just west of Greenfield, north of the old Fontanelle road which is now Main Street, and at the same time the Day Brickyard was in operation a short distance east of Fontanelle in the Nodaway bottom. In all these cases the brick was molded by hand, and was of rather inferior quality as measured by the standard of today, being rough and soft. About fifteen years ago, a brickyard was established in Greenfield by J. W. Darby, and for a decade an excellent quality of brick and tile was manufactured at this point. The material used in the early manufacture of brick in the county was the black alluvium of sloughs and stream bottoms, since it was then believed that the joint clay was useless for this purpose. In fact, the latter cannot be used successfully where the method of molding by hand is in vogue, since it will check in drying and experience has shown that most of the brick are ruined. It often has the added disadvantage of containing many small pebbles, which of course makes its use for brick making impossible. The material used by Mr. Darby was a deposit of drift, or joint clay, lying just east of the railway station in Greenfield. At this point the drift is practically free from pebbles. One large boulder was uncovered in the diggings, and in a search of an hour covering the exposure the writer found three tiny flint pebbles. The brick and tile were molded by machinery and it was found that there was but little checking and very few were spoiled in the burning. Mr. Darby maintained a permanent equipment of one large brick kiln and three tile kilns, the product being taken as soon as made, and the demand usually exceeding the supply. The establishment finally passed into other hands and the business having become involved, was discontinued in a few years. The machinery was bought by C. H. Cass of Bridgewater.

Mr. Cass was a contractor and bricklayer and maintained a yard at Bridgewater where he manufactured the materials used by him. The material used was ordinary Kansan drift clay, which in the vicinity of Bridgewater was commonly free from pebbles and sand, and burned into excellent brick.

The brick and tile industry in Adair County offers good possibilities. There are large plants at Creston and Stuart, but owing to railroad disadvantages there are no large ones in Adair County.

#### CHANGES INCIDENT TO HUMAN OCCUPATION

Open pastures in all parts of the county show much recent erosion, the gulleys cutting from a depth of a few inches to fifteen or twenty



feet, and gradually backing up from the lowlands toward the higher ground. So general is this process and so recent is it in all observed cases, as to lead to the suspicion that the region may have undergone recent rejuvenation. After careful examination the writer has been led to reject the rejuvenation theory. It is noticeable that the process of gully cutting takes place only in those places where the wild grass has been replaced by the tame grass. Blue grass pastures are especially subject to dissection of this sort, while the process is absolutely unknown in those places where the native slough grass still carpets the soil. It must of course be remembered that the slough grass is not limited to bogs and marshes, but is the normal ground covering in all shallow sloughs and draws, even when the latter lays close to the crest of the divide. Originally, therefore, every place that would, by reason of its lower level, be the natural starting point for the development of a gully, was covered by the slough grass. This grass grew in hummocks, which usually lie so close together that one may step from one to the other. It roots very deep (three to six feet) and the root system forms a dense spongy mass that absorbs and holds water readily. The decay of the culms and the older roots forms a very absorbent humus and because of the dense root mass this humus does not wash away, but remains and so increases the absorbent capacity. The grass grows very thick, to a height of three to four feet, producing a dense shade, and thus reducing evaporation. The roots are not limited to the hummocks or stools, but penetrate between and the whole slough thus becomes a great tough sponge for the retention of moisture. Under these conditions rapid erosion is an impossibility.

When the slough grass has been replaced by blue grass, most of these conditions are reversed. The blue grass makes, it is true, a dense ground cover, but it does not root deeply and it does not produce a heavy humus. Especially is the latter true in the case of pastures where the grass is continually eaten off short. Once erosion is started at one point it proceeds with great rapidity. The soil beneath the turf (and the latter is but a few inches in thickness) is quickly washed out, the water excavates beneath the edge of the overhanging turf, and the latter soon begins to break off of its own weight and fall into the little gully thus forming. Each rainstorm deepens the gully a little, and backs it up a few feet, until finally the greater part of a valuable pasture may be dissected by a series of several wide, deep gulleys and many square rods of pasturage destroyed. In the wasteful farming of the past, farmers and agricultural teachers have alike

failed to estimate at its full value the damage to the agriculture of Iowa wrought by this process. In the more economical farming of the future, effective means will have to be taken to check it. The cultivation of the soil has, of course, greatly increased the factors of creep and sheet-water erosion, denuding the higher ground of much of its humus, and increasing the thickness of alluvium on the lower lands. To a certain extent this is unavoidable, but true economy would suggest that the steeper hillsides should not be ploughed, and should be kept in permanent meadow or pasture. The annual run-off has also been greatly modified by cultivation. Under primitive conditions the water of the spring rains was caught by every slough and held through the season, gradually seeping out, as the summer went on, to feed the smaller streams. The whole land surface was dissected by this network of reservoirs which, by reason of the conditions of shade, humus, spongy consistency and depth of root mass, etc., made an excellent series of feeders for the streams. Under present conditions the run-off is much more rapid in the spring and this is likely to be succeeded by a condition of semi-aridity during July and August. It is no unusual thing for Middle River and the East Nodaway to cease flowing during August, the water being reduced to a few shallow pools. In the summer of 1911 the writer walked for half a mile down the bed of Middle River and not only found no water, but in that distance found the sand for the most part perfectly dry and dust-like. Above and below this half-mile stretch were stagnant pools, and there may of course have been a little seepage through the lower part of the sand, but could not have been much. Such is the condition in a year of drought. Conditions of this sort were unknown in the early days before the breaking up of the prairie and the extirpation of the native grass.

The cutting of much of the timber has had a marked effect on erosion and topography. It is true that much good land has been added to the cultivable area. On the other hand, much land has been cleared that ought to have been left in timber. The clearing of the steeper hillsides has led to the washing away of the humus with which they were once carpeted. This having once occurred the grass becomes thin, gullies begin to develop, and soon the entire slope is dissected by deep V-shaped valleys and is perfectly bare of vegetation. If, after clearing, the attempt is made to put a slope of this sort under the plow, the process is of course hastened. In any case land which was originally productive becomes waste and then cannot be farmed, nor can it be reforested without tremendous expense.

True conservation demands that the rougher land be kept in timber. The destruction of the brush and the smaller forest vegetation has led to much destructive erosion on the steeper slopes. A blue grass surface, covered with sparse timber is readily cut into gullies in the same way as are open pastures though not at the same rate. In clearing ground the brush should be left on the steeper slopes. With the increasing value of timber, and the advanced price of land, the problem of woodland conservation should no longer be ignored.

## BOTANY

The relation of botany to geological conditions is always a close one, since the nature of the plant covering and the distribution of plant species depends very largely upon the character of the mantle rock. Conversely, the nature of the vegetation may profoundly modify the ground conditions. The flora of the county comprises a number of fairly distinct types, and these types conform in a general way to the three conditions of moisture, shade and soil. In general these types may be classified as follows:

Prairie	Upland prairie flora—xerophytic to mesophytic.	High gravel points.
		High exposed south and west slopes — partially xerophytic.
		North and east slopes—xerophytic to mesophytic.
	Slough flora.	Slight depressions in high prairies — mesophytic — and intermediate stages down to wet bogs on lower levels—hydrophytic.
	Prairie stream flora.	Hydrophytic flora, bordered by thin fringe of mesophytic flora.
	Unforested alluvial bottoms.	Mesophytic on higher ground. Hydrophytic in bogs and oxbows, and near streams.

Native  
Forest

Steep bluff flora, usually on south or west bank of larger streams — mesophytic.

Ravine flora, found low in gullies cut in river bluffs, and at the base of bluffs — mesophytic to hydrophytic. This includes much the same species as the next.

Shaded alluvial bottoms — mesophytic to hydrophytic.

















